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'I LOVE HIM, I'M SO SORRY'

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Women's soccer team loses its first chance to GET AHEAD AT THE GAMES

Canada's Kaylyn Kyle and Japan's Yuki Ogimi battle for the ball in Olympic Soccer action in Coventry, England, on Wednesday. Japan defeated the Canadian team 2-1. Story, pg. 57. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Crossbow killer suffered horrific abuse

Prosecution accepts plea to lesser offence after considering Zhou Fang, 26, was tortured by his father, whom he killed in a Toronto library PAGE 3

Convenience stores fight for right to bear beer

A petition with 112,500 signatures supporting broader retail availability of beer and wine was released yesterday. Find out which political leaders agree it's an "antiquated alcohol retailing system," and which don't PAGE 14

Creatures of habit

Migrating songbirds depart for North America at the same time annually, almost to the exact date, study finds PAGE 4

Strip clubs eye student bodies

Recruitment plans. Foreign entertainers are set to leave the country, so the industry sees potential in younger girls

With more than 800 foreign strippers unable to renew their work permits — forced to eventually return to their home countries — the industry is looking to barely-legals to fill its labour shortage.

But the approach, which involves targeting girls at schools and job fairs, has not been warmly received outside the industry.

Having the adult entertainment industry present at its job fairs wouldn't be appropriate, said Ian Ingles, manager of employer services at Ryerson University's Career Development and Employment Centre.

"It wouldn't match up with the type of exhibitors that are there," Ingles said. "When you have kids' summer camps looking for counsellors ... that would not be something that we would entertain."

No other choice?

"We're going to have to hire an 18-year-old to work in a club and we're going to take the steps to make sure they don't drink."

Tim Lambrinos, executive director of the Adult Entertainment Association of Canada

On July 4, the federal government announced a ban on foreign strippers entering the country to work, amid heightened safety concerns within the industry. Foreign nationals brought in to work in sex-trade-related businesses are particularly at risk of being exploited and abused.

Strippers currently working in Canada will be allowed to continue to work, but their work permits will not be renewed.

Tim Lambrinos, executive director of the Adult Entertainment Association of Canada, said the labour shortage will force clubs to look at the next available source of supply: students.

Most strip clubs require workers to be at least 19 to comply with alcohol regulations, but this could change if the association gets its way.

He said these recruiting tactics will be implemented "shortly," but was unable to provide an exact timeline. He has yet to contact job fairs or schools.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tuition too high

Advertising such jobs at universities could exploit vulnerable students who are overworked in order to afford tuition, said Morgan Vanek, a PhD student and teacher at U of T.

- "If you're approaching the student body because you know they need money, the problem there is that tuition is too high," she said.

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Stars step up, heat up stage

Kathryn McCormick and Ryan Guzman showed a NEW.MUSIC.LIVE audience what it means to step up on Wednesday, as they took the stage for a surprise performance. Later they occupied seats in the judge's panel while two of Toronto's hottest dance crews busted a move of their own, in a warm-up for the July 27 release of the movie Step Up Revolution. PHOTO COURTESY OF MUCHMUSIC

Crossbow killer pleads guilty

Warning.
This report contains graphic details

A man who walked into a busy Toronto public library and fired a crossbow bolt into his father's back, then crushed his skull in with a hammer, has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder.

Zhou Fang, now 26, was charged with first-degree murder of Si Cheng, 52, after the shocking afternoon incident on Dec. 2, 2010, inside the Main Street branch.

But the prosecution accepted a plea to the lesser offence after considering that Fang was the subject of "long term and horrible abuse at the hands of his father," Crown attorney Mike Callaghan told Ontario Superior Court on Wednesday.

That's not to suggest the Crown finds the abuse "in any way justifies the murder or the unlawfulness of it," Callaghan said, adding the seriousness of Fang's conduct is reflected in the mandatory life sentence he faces.

Court sketch of Zhou Fang.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

From the time he was a baby, "Fang was the victim of deprivation, beatings and what can only be described as psychological torture," Crown attorney Jessica Smith-Joy said, reading from an agreed statement of facts.

He also witnessed "ongoing and severe instances of domestic violence committed by his father against his mother, Nora Fang," she said. Cheng was convicted of abuse against the pair on numerous occasions, and there is a significant history of police and Children's Aid Society intervention.

Cheng's reign of terror included molesting and urinating on his son. He choked Fang when he tried to protect his mother from being sexually abused.

Cheng also killed Fang's pet birds, forced him to eat his own vomit, and subjected him to relentless threats if the abuse was revealed.

Even though the physical abuse ceased in 2002, and Fang and his mother relocated to Ottawa, the pair constantly lived in fear that Cheng would find and kill them, the prosecutor said.

The Crown and defence are asking the judge to impose a parole ineligibility period of 10 years. The maximum is 25 years.

Fang will be sentenced Sept. 4. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Chronic child abuse

A senior forensic psychiatrist who assessed Fang described the abuse as "one of the worst and most chronic child abuse (and spousal abuse) scenarios" he had encountered. He concluded that Fang suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Downtown

Sherbourne bike lanes move ahead

Work is to begin soon to add separated bike lanes to Sherbourne St. as part of planned repairs. The $4.1 million contract includes $2.5 million for bike lanes.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Vaughan

Instructor charged with indecent act

A Vaughan driving instructor faces criminal charges after allegedly committing an indecent act in front of a 19-year-old female student.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Carnival. Security measures ramped up

People will be searched before being allowed into stands to watch this year's Scotiabank Caribbean Carnival parade in Toronto, event organizers say.

The added security will be at paid-admission bleacher areas at the start of the parade route.

Parade spokesperson Stephen Weir describes the search as light: Bags will be checked and prohibited items disposed of or flagged for police.

"What we are not going to allow ... is alcohol, non-prescription drugs, and projectiles — or ... the worst-case scenario, weapons," Weir said. Outside food and drinks will be allowed.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"We were getting hammered by ... a link between the shooting ... in Scarborough and an event that attracts mostly a black audience, or a Caribbean-Canadian audience."

Parade spokesperson Stephen Weir

1 NEWS

Mobile news

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Same time, next year: Songbirds punctual in migration, study finds

Internal clock? York U researchers note birds depart north almost on same day annually — leaving them vulnerable to climate change

Forget delaying a trip for bad weather. When it comes to overseas flights, migratory songbirds seem determined to leave as scheduled.

Songbirds eager to get to their North American breeding grounds depart Central America at the same time annually, almost to the exact date, according to a York University study published in the online journal PLoS this month.

By outfitting songbirds with dime-sized, 1.5-gram geolocator "backpacks," researchers were able to track the same songbirds' flight patterns, departure dates and arrival dates for two years in a row — the first time this has been done, biology professor Bridget Stutchbury said.

"Our study seems to suggest each bird has an internal clock and arrives on time," Stutchbury said from Pennsylvania. The songbirds left within three days of the same calendar date from one year to the next.

The songbirds' punctuality may be the envy of beleaguered air travellers, but it might also explain their severely declining numbers. The population of wood thrush, the species studied, has decreased by more than 50 per cent in Canada since the 1960s.

Bridget Stuchbury
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Along with risks such as tall buildings in urban centres or deforested habitats, the songbirds may be at risk because they do not adjust their calendars for climate change, Stutchbury said.

If the songbirds cannot adapt their departure dates to changing weather over the years, they might not be able to take advantage of the optimum food supply. The food supply usually peaks in late May or early June, just when the birds' young are hatching.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Taking flight

A geolocator attached to a wood thrush shows how the songbirds travelled to exactly the same destination at the same time, two years in a row.

SOURCE: York University TORONTO STAR GRAPHIC

Tracking the birds

- To get data on an individual bird, a researcher had to catch it, equip it with the geolocator (the birds didn't seem to notice the chip, which is strapped around their legs and sits like a fanny pack, Stutchbury said), then re-catch it at the other end of its journey to collect the data.
- So far, this has been done with only 10 birds — a feat, considering their size and their 10,000-kilometre round-trip journey from Nicaragua, Honduras and Belize to Canada and the northeastern U.S. The songbirds, about the size of a human hand, typically leave mid-April and arrive two to three weeks later.
- About 200 birds are equipped with the geolocator.

Having a ball at DQ's charity launch

Toronto Blue Jay Brett Cecil enjoys a moment with a young fan at Dairy Queen Canada's kickoff to the 10th annual Miracle Treat Day at SickKids in Toronto on Wednesday. Today is Miracle Treat Day, a national campaign that donates 100 per cent of proceeds from all Blizzard Treats sold to Children's Miracle Network. CONTRIBUTED

Toronto scientist pioneers living 3D pancreas model

Toronto researcher Dr. Senthil Muthuswamy has created the first living 3D prototype of the human pancreas, a model he hopes will give insight into an elusive disease that kills all but a fortunate few.

"We have a very limited understanding of the biology" of the cancer, said Muthuswamy, a researcher at Princess Margaret Hospital. "By the time the patient shows symptoms … the cancer has grown a lot and metastasized."

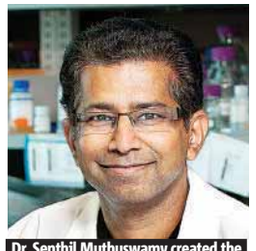
This year, 4,600 Canadians will receive news that they have pancreatic cancer, and according to the Canadian Cancer Society, 4,300 of them will die of it within five years.

Neville Reed is a rare exception. Eight years after finding out about a fist-sized tumor in his pancreas, the 74-year-old grandfather is completely cancer-free.

"I'm one of the six per cent that managed to survive," he said. "I'm certainly fortunate."

Muthuswamy hopes the pancreatic duct prototypes he created from stem cells coaxed to perform like the human pancreas will help make Reed's story more common.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Dr. Senthil Muthuswamy created the first living 3D models of the pancreas to better understand pancreatic cancer. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

Eye on early detection

In coming months and years, Dr. Senthil Muthuswamy and his colleagues will attempt to make the ducts cancerous, in the process hoping to learn about the risk factors and early signs of the disease.

- So far, this kind of research was only possible on a flat layer of cells instead of tube structures similar to how the ducts exist in the human organ, said Muthuswamy.
- The goal of the research is to eventually find clues for early detection.

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Traveller's spirit and Scotiabank support help Shanghai native start Canadian journey

As the operator of a Shanghai travel agency, Yuxiang Zhang had a love of travel that he put to the test when he decided to move to Canada. But when he faced worries about this colossal trip, he discovered how Scotiabank's multinational team and services can provide a smooth landing.

Mr. Zhang's personal journey began after he visited Becky, his only daughter, who had migrated to Canada in 1999. Seeing how she was enjoying her life in a friendly, multicultural country he decided to become a family class immigrant.

"I was excited to join my daughter, but I was also unsure about the details, such as how would I move forward without speaking English?" says Mr. Zhang, who also wondered about practical issues such as the process to transfer money to a Canadian bank.

Fortunately, Becky convinced him to attend an immigration seminar in Shanghai, hosted by Scotiabank and The Cross-Cultural Community Services Association, where Bank officials answered every question, ranging from the Canadian job market to government services. He also learned about the ***Scotiabank StartRight***® Program[1] for Newcomers, which includes a free day-to-day bank account for one year[2], a wide range of credit card options[3] and a number of other customized services and benefits.

"Before the workshop, I was very worried, but after I felt relieved, and it gave me the courage to move forward," recounts Mr. Zhang, who arranged for his Canadian and U.S dollar bank accounts with Scotiabank, and applied for a credit card, while still in Shanghai, through the Bank's partnership with China Everbright Bank.

After landing in Toronto in late 2009, Mr. Zhang went alone to the Scotiabank branch at the Steeles and Silverstar location to activate his accounts. Speaking only Mandarin and Russian, he wasn't sure how things would go. Luckily, he was greeted by Isa Ho, Branch Manager, and her multilingual staff. "Surprisingly, it went well, and my accounts and debit card were ready, and my credit card came within a week," marvels Mr. Zhang.

Isa, a Canadian immigrant who speaks both Cantonese and Mandarin, is well-prepared to serve newcomers. She often calls them long distance before they move, to help them prepare. "I tell them about banking options and what are the best schools for their kids," says Isa, a 32-year veteran of Scotiabank, who still remembers first seeing donuts when she arrived. "When they get here, we answer their questions about Canadian customs, and explain about banking in Canada. Also, since many newcomers want to buy a home, we educate them on Canadian mortgages and how to avoid credit mistakes."

Today, Mr. Zhang is enjoying life in Canada, and whenever he has the chance, he speaks to others about the opportunities in Canada and "the friendly, open and trustworthy service I experience at Scotiabank."

That's good news for Isa Ho who teaches her Scotiabank team to, "Welcome every newcomer with a smile, speak their language, and serve them with our hearts."

With Scotiabank's help, Mr. Yuxiang Zhang is discovering a world of opportunities in Canada.

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New hub for grub hopes to whet Parkdale residents' appetites

Food co-op. Grocery store and kitchen will target low-income families, but anyone can join

PHOEBE HO
Toronto@metronews.ca

Shopping for groceries is a balancing act for Parkdale resident Corrin Adams.

A single mother dependent on social assistance, she has roughly $200 a month, after rent, to cover food, clothing and other expenses. Bartering and growing her own food during the summer months helps a bit, but getting by is not easy for Adams, who says she and her daughter have been living "hand-to-mouth" for the past four years.

"I take care of us through what we eat," she says, "and if we're not eating well, it's so obvious that I'll do whatever it takes to make eating local organic fresh foods my highest priority no matter where I am, especially for my daughter."

Parkdale has a large number of low-income residents, and most opt for quantity over quality, says Susanna Redekop, marketing and community engagement co-ordinator of the West-End Food Co-op.

That's why the co-op is hoping its new Food Hub, set to open in the neighbourhood this fall, will offer another option to people like Adams, who value nutrition but are constrained by their budget.

Equal parts grocery store and community kitchen, the Food Hub will sell takeout food and host community workshops. The community-run and -funded store will provide assistance to low-income residents with various programs while providing them with access to quality produce. The co-op credits program will offer patrons store credit in return for volunteer work.

The idea of a co-operative is not new. But Redekop notes she has seen a surge recently.

"One of the reasons I think the co-op model is so empowering is that the people who are the members of the co-op really run the co-op," she says.

Adams is one of the 600 members already on board. The stakeholders all have a say in the operation. She says apart from its being a good source of produce and social programs, the community aspect of the co-op also draws her in.

"I think it's just part of a bigger movement than just having a place to buy food," she says. "It brings together community in a way that food should. It's just so much more than what we put in our mouths. There's this whole social culture around food, and then it gets people in touch and involved at a whole other level."

Social contract

"In Parkdale there are already quite a number of soup kitchens and places that offer inexpensive or free food to families with low income. We're more about a hand-up and not a handout."
Susanna Redekop, West-End Food Co-op

Parkdale residents get a preview of the nearly completed renovated space that will house the Food Hub, located in the basement of the Parkdale Community Health Centre. CONTRIBUTED/ROWAN SHIRKIE

Perks of membership

$5

The Food Hub will be run by members, including producers, shoppers and community partners, in a democratic environment. For a $5 fee, anyone can become a member and have a say in operational decisions.

York Region spurns election for choosing chairman

He's like the mayor of York Region, but he has never had to run for the position. Instead, for the past 15 years, Bill Fisch has been appointed chairman of the region by 20 of his fellow regional councillors, a position many argue is the most important one in a growing region of 1.1-million people. The last three times he ran for chairman, he won unanimously.

But with a shift in nearby Durham region, which made the switch from appointing the regional chair to direct election in May, some say a similar change is needed in York.

Bill Fisch
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"I believe this office is a public office, and I think the person who holds this office should be elected by the public," said Richmond Hill MPP Reza Moridi, who tabled a private members bill in April that would see the York regional chairperson become an elected position.

But Fisch, who made $207,654 in 2011, according to the provincial sunshine list, says he doesn't feel there is a need for change. And neither does the regional council, which, in June, voted to retain the status quo.

Fisch says his role differs from that of a mayor, and he doesn't hold voting power except in the event of a tie. Part of his job is advocating for all nine municipalities in the region, he says, and an elected chair might not be able to provide that balance.

Then there's the issue of running a campaign over nine municipalities with no centralized medium for communication. "It could cost half a million to just get flyers out and campaign the traditional way," Fisch said, adding that would restrict the candidate pool.

Steve Parish, the mayor of Ajax, has heard it all before. He advocated for change in Durham for more than a decade before a 2010 referendum showed most residents wanted an elected official to lead them.

"To me, it's very basic. It's just about democracy," Parish said. It also gives taxpayers a say in deciding what the priorities of their community should be.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

On the waterfront

Ontario Place report due out on Thursday

The province is ready to reveal its plans for a makeover of Ontario Place.

Former Ontario PC leader John Tory will unveil a final report on the Ontario Place Revitalization on Thursday morning.

The cash-strapped province, which is trying to cut a $16-billion deficit, has said it can't afford to keep Ontario Place open in its current form.

Finance Minister Dwight Duncan said this year that the park will be closed until 2017 and its water park, amusement rides and the Cinesphere will be torn down.

The panel was asked to come up with ways to make the park a must-visit destination once again.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charges laid

Man accused of abandoning baby

A Hamilton man is facing child-abandonment charges after police found a baby in a car seat left behind a fence in Milton.

Halton police say officers were called to a home in Milton on July 14 and were told by a distraught couple that another man, who had been drinking, had taken his four-month-old child in a car seat and fled on foot.

A search led to a backyard where the baby was found in a car seat behind a high fence. Police say the baby was unharmed.

The man, 28, is charged with abandoning a child and breach of recognizance and was to appear for a bail hearing. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Equality

Scotland to legalize gay marriage

Scotland's government has announced plans to legalize same-sex marriages. The measure has backing from the major Scottish political parties. It follows a public consultation on the issue. When enacted, Scotland could become the first part of the U.K. to allow same-sex marriages. The U.K. government is awaiting the results of a public consultation before taking further steps. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingenuity

Use of legal synthetic drugs up

People are inventing so many new, legal ways to get high that U.S. lawmakers can't seem to keep up. Over the past two years, the country has seen a surge in the use of synthetic drugs made of legal chemicals that mimic the dangerous effects of cocaine, amphetamines and other illegal stimulants. Some are imported cheaply from China or India. The drugs have been linked to bizarre and violent behaviour. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

National security

Surveillance info no longer public

The curtains at Canada's most secretive federal agency have been drawn a little tighter. The government has quietly stopped telling Canadians about the annual priorities of the national electronic eavesdropping agency, meaning scant details of its mission, once public, are now classified. For years, a section of the Defence Department's plans and priorities report spelled out agency priorities. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gun sales surge across U.S.

Aurora theatre massacre. While the shootings have stirred debate on gun control, Washington stays mum

Firearms sales are surging after last week's Colorado theatre massacre as buyers fear that politicians may use the shootings to seek new restrictions on owning weapons.

Some Democratic lawmakers in Congress cited the shooting as evidence of the need for tougher gun control laws — particularly a ban on high-capacity ammunition magazines. Congress, however, hasn't passed strict legislation in more than a decade, and leaders in Washington show no sign of bringing up such measures any time soon.

In Colorado, where Friday's shooting killed 12, gun sales jumped in the three days that followed. The state approved background checks for 2,887 people who wanted to purchase a firearm — 25 per cent more than the average Friday-to-Sunday period in 2012 and 43 per cent more than the same interval the week prior.

Dick Rutan, owner of Gunners Den in Arvada, Colo., said requests for concealed-weapon certification "are off the hook." His course in gun safety, required for certification for a concealed-weapons permit in Colorado, has drawn double the interest since Friday.

"What they're saying is, they want to have a chance. They want to have the ability to protect themselves and their families if they are in a situation like what happened in the movie theatre," Rutan said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Actor Christian Bale and his wife, Sibi Blazic, at a site dedicated to Veronica Moser-Sullivan, 6, the youngest of the 12 victims of Friday's mass shooting, at a memorial in Aurora, Colo., on Tuesday. TED S. WARREN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oldest victim

First funeral held

A dad who took his teenage children to the new Batman movie and was killed when a gunman opened fire on the theatre was mourned Wednesday, the first memorial service for a victim of the shootings.

Fifty-one-year-old Gordon Cowden was the oldest of the 12 people killed. His teenage children escaped unharmed. A family statement described him as a "true Texas gentleman" who loved the outdoors.

Later this week, families of other victims plan to say their final goodbyes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Korea. Mystery woman is wife of leader

North Korea ended weeks of speculation Wednesday by confirming that the mystery woman beside young leader Kim Jong Un at recent public events is indeed his wife, "comrade Ri Sol Ju." The news was buried in a state TV report about Kim's tour of an amusement park, delivered casually by a newscaster who gave no details about Ri, including how long she and Kim have been married. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

London. Boy gets to Italy without ticket, passport

The 11-year-old boy didn't have a passport, didn't have a ticket, didn't have a boarding pass, and got all the way from England to Italy on his own.

For him, the 1,700-kilometre journey was a great adventure. "He was chatting away about being off by himself," and passengers alerted the cabin crew, Russell Craig, a spokesman for Manchester Airport, said Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Montreal. Public funeral for Lin to be held today

A public funeral will be held Thursday for Jun Lin, whose slaying grabbed national attention after his body was dismembered and parts were mailed to two Canadian cities.

The service will be held at a Montreal funeral home.

Lin studied computer science at Concordia University, which is helping raise funds for his family and is setting up an award in his memory. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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As Canada's premiers meet in Halifax this week for the Council of the Federation, we thought it would be fun to see how well you know our provincial and territorial leaders
There are 13 in total – 10 provinces and three territories
Take the test and see how you do. The answers are in the bottom corner of the page

1
Did you know? Is a certified official for both hockey and swimming. CONTRIBUTED

2
Did you know? Is the youngest premier in Canada.
CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

3
Did you know? Is a former university professor of social work. METRO FILE

4
Did you know? Married his high school sweetheart in 1980.
THE CANDIAN PRESS

5
Did you know? Was the youngest federal cabinet minister in Canadian history in 1986. THE CANDIAN PRESS

6
Did you know? Owns an arts and crafts store and used to be a reporter for CBC. CONTRIBUTED

7
Did you know? Went to university for social work but never graduated.
THE CANDIAN PRESS

Can you name that premier?

Scoring box

How many could you identify?

- **13.** You should run for Prime Minister.
- **10-12.** Canadian politics is your thing.
- **7-9.** Might want to consider reading the newspaper a bit more.
- **4-6.** Sign-up for a Canadian politics course — now.
- **1-3.** Good enough to warrant a Senate appointment.
- **0.** Sad. You couldn't even name your own premier.

8
Did you know? Won the Economic Developer of the Year award in 1999 for his province. METRO FILE

9
Did you know? Was the first person in their family to attend university.
METRO FILE

10
Did you know? Left the political world for five years to host an afternoon radio talk show. METRO FILE

11
Did you know? Raises purebred Hereford cattle in his spare time.
THE CANDIAN PRESS

12
Did you know? Was appointed to administer Afghanistan's first parliamentary elections in 2005. METRO FILE

13
Did you know? Also president of a recreational hockey league and a golf club. CONTRIBUTED

Answers

1. Darrell Pasloski – Yukon
2. Robert Ghiz – Prince Edward Island
3. Gregory Selinger – Manitoba
4. Dalton McGuinty – Ontario
5. Jean Charest – Quebec
6. Eva Aariak – Nunavut
7. Kathy Dunderdale – Newfoundland and Labrador
8. Brad Wall – Saskatchewan
9. Darrell Dexter – Nova Scotia
10. Christy Clark – British Columbia
11. David Alward – New Brunswick
12. Alison Redford – Alberta
13. Bob McLeod – Northwest Territories

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Beijing. Mishandled floods cause public to question government

Beijing's mayor is apparently still on track to be promoted to China's powerful decision-making body despite public questioning of the city government's handling of floods that left at least 37 dead.

Mayor Guo Jinlong and one of his vice-mayors resigned, state media reported Wednesday, in what is likely a routine reshuffling. The announcement came as more rain was forecast to hit Beijing and amid signs that the death toll from last weekend's storms could jump higher.

Saturday's flooding was an embarrassment for China's capital, which spent billions of dollars modernizing the city while apparently neglecting its drainage systems. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weird weather

- Saturday's heavy rain was unusual in normally dry Beijing. On Wednesday evening, more heavy rain fell on the capital as forecast by the Beijing Meteorological Bureau, which warned of possible flash flooding and mudslides in the capital's outskirts.

Canadian discovery

Western Arctic crater confirmed

Canadian researchers say they've discovered a 25-kilometre-wide meteorite crater in the western Arctic.

The crater was found two years ago, but it took that long to properly confirm exactly what it was. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jewish tradition

Rabbis warn of new restrictions

A group of Orthodox rabbis warned Wednesday that the practice of infant circumcision could face further restrictions in Europe after hospitals cited a German ruling that it could amount to criminal bodily harm. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mother of police shooting victim condemns protests

Demonstration. Violence breaks out at peaceful rally as crowds storm city hall meeting, blocking a nearby intersection

The mother of a man who was shot by Anaheim, Calif., police officers has condemned violent protests against the killing, saying Wednesday that she did not want them to become her son's legacy.

"I watched as my son took his last breath. I watched as his heart stopped beating for the last time," Genevieve Huizar said, breaking into sobs. "Please, please, please stop the violence. It's not going to bring my son back, and this is the worst thing any mother could go through."

Her news conference followed a fourth day of violent protests over Saturday's police shooting of Manuel Diaz, and the Sunday death of another man.

As many as 1,000 demonstrators surged through downtown Tuesday night, smashing shop windows, setting trash fires and hurling rocks and bottles at police, authorities said.

Huizar said her family has not participated in any violence.

At an earlier news conference, Mayor Tom Tait said the U.S. attorney's office had agreed to review the officer-involved shootings and that he planned to meet with members of that office and the FBI on Friday.

The shootings and resulting demonstrations marred the image of the Orange County city, which is home to Disneyland and the Angels baseball team, but also has neighbourhoods teeming with gritty apartments.

The violence downtown spread into Wednesday morning and left 20 stores with shattered windows.

Twenty-four people, including four minors, were arrested on suspicion of crimes ranging from failure to disperse to assault with a deadly weapon, police Chief John Welter said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Genevieve Huizar, the mother of Manuel Diaz, who was shot to death by Anaheim police, breaks down after pleading for a stop to the violence at a news conference in Santa Ana, Calif., Wednesday. DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ontario convenience stores press for right to sell beer and wine

Another bid. The LCBO turned over a record $1.63B dividend to the province after selling $4.7B worth of alcohol from 2010-2011

Ontario's convenience stores launched another bid Wednesday for permission to sell beer and wine, and found at least one party leader willing to consider the idea.

The Ontario Convenience Stores Association released a petition with 112,500 signatures gathered across the province supporting the idea of broader retail availability of beer and wine.

"Ontarians have spoken very clearly and they are not happy with the antiquated alcohol retailing system we have in Ontario," said association CEO Dave Bryans.

"They're responsible adults who want the simple convenience of leaving the car at home and walking to their neighbourhood store to get wine for dinner or drinks for the barbecue."

Joanne McMurchy, owner of a general store in Vanessa, south of Brantford, Ont., holds a petition signed by customers who want to buy beer and wine at her shop. McMurchy appeared at a Queen's Park news conference Wednesday pushing the idea, which the government rejects. ROB FERGUSON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The petition was started by Joanne McMurchy, who runs the General Store in the hamlet of Vanessa, south of Brantford, Ont., where some of the 80 local residents complained they have to drive 20 minutes to a liquor store.

"My customers were persistently asking ... was there any chance that beer would come to the store," McMurchy said at a press conference.

"So I decided that I would take people's names down that had requested this persistently over the past couple of years and then made up this petition."

Former Liberal premier David Peterson promised to allow corner stores to sell beer and wine in the 1980s, but it never happened, and the current Liberal government has no plans to change the rules.

"The current system balances access for both customers and suppliers with social responsibility," said Aly Vitunski, press secretary for Finance Minister Dwight Duncan.

"We take the concerns of convenience store owners seriously, but we believe the current system of selling liquor is an effective way to guard the public interest."

Convenience stores already sell alcohol in 214 Ontario communities that are too small for a regular LCBO outlet or a Beer Store, said Bryans.

"It makes no sense to anyone, and it's actually just total control," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The debate – uncorked

Conservatives say it's time to re-examine

The NDP has consistently opposed the sale of beer and wine in corner stores, but the Progressive Conservatives said Wednesday it was time the province re-examined its role in the liquor business.

"Should the government be in the liquor sales, liquor distribution business (and) the regulatory side as well?" asked PC Leader Tim Hudak.

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Accident. 4 adults, 2 kids injured in second-storey deck collapse

Provincial police say two of the six people injured when a wooden deck collapsed in Markdale, Ont., have been released from hospital.

The six family members — including two children — were hurt when the deck on their second-storey apartment collapsed Tuesday evening in the community 40 kilometres southeast of Owen Sound.

Police say a two-year-old Markdale boy and a 16-year-old boy from Georgian Bluffs have been released.

But the four others remain in various area hospitals, including a four-year-old Markdale boy who was airlifted to Children's Hospital in London with critical injuries.

The area's building inspector is investigating the incident.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Damage

Const. Alina Grelik says the deck on the side of the building collapsed inward toward the brick wall and fell about four metres to the ground.

- The victims were trapped in the wreckage and had to be freed by the fire department.

Six Nations reserve

Cause of cigarette-plant fire may never be known

The cause of a fire that destroyed a cigarette manufacturing plant on the Six Nations reserve near Brantford will likely remain a mystery.

Ontario's fire marshal's office said the damage from the fire was too severe for a cause to be determined.

No one was injured in Monday's blaze, which took more than eight hours to bring under control and caused an estimated $1 million in damage.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories dispute Liberal claims of wage freeze

Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak says teachers will be allowed to advance on a salary grid, which means automatic raises for many of them every year. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ontario Catholic Teachers Association.

Union says it agreed to a two-year freeze to help eliminate provincial deficit

The Liberal government's claim of negotiating a two-year pay freeze with the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association was challenged Wednesday by the Opposition, which predicted many teachers will still get raises.

The Catholic teachers' union was the first to agree to the wage freeze, and accepted three unpaid professional-development days in the second year of their contract.

Quoted

"Only Tim Hudak would cry foul over an agreement that freezes salaries."

Education Minister Laurel Broten

The Liberals say the deal amounts to a 1.5 per cent pay cut, and wants to strike similar agreements with the other teachers' unions.

But the Progressive Conservatives said teachers will be allowed to advance on their salary grid, which means automatic raises for many of them every year.

"Under the grid, a teacher will move up in salary every year, and over a two-year period that's pretty well a $7,000 wage increase for 40 per cent of the teachers," said PC Leader Tim Hudak.

"That's not a wage freeze, and they failed to find savings elsewhere to balance that equation, so we're actually in this deal blowing a $300-million hole in the fiscal plan."

The government said the salary grid will be frozen for all teachers in the first six months of each year over the next two years.

The Liberals say they must negotiate pay freezes with more than one million public-sector workers to eliminate a $15-billion deficit.

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Man who plunged into Niagara Gorge lived in local group home

Niagara Falls. Ontario police watchdog won't discuss incident until probe is complete

A young man who plunged to his death Tuesday in the Niagara Gorge was staying at a group home while trying to get his life back on track, a youth organization said Wednesday.

The 18-year-old, whose name hasn't been released, was "well-liked" at the Boys and Girls Club residence where he had lived on and off since last year, the organization's executive director said.

"He was always very respectful and polite," with no incidents of violence, JoAnne Turner said. "He'll be missed. It's such a tragedy."

The man left the home shortly after 5 p.m. and authorities said a police officer started chasing him sometime after then.

That's when both went over a retaining wall and fell about 30 metres into the gorge in Niagara Falls.

The province's police watchdog, the Special Investigations Unit, said the man died of injuries from the fall, while the police officer broke his leg.

Turner said she doesn't know what triggered the chase but noted the man was on probation.

She said he was looking for work and hoped to eventually live on his own.

The area where the pair fell is "so treacherous" despite the waist-height retaining wall, Turner said

"In some places you can climb over that wall and be on solid ground for metres, but in certain spots it's a straight drop down the gorge," she said.

The SIU is looking into the incident and said Wednesday it won't discuss what happened until the probe is complete.

A spokeswoman for the agency said relatives have asked that the man's name not be released to the public.

Firefighters pulled both from the gorge around 9 p.m. Tuesday after reportedly rappelling down the steep embankment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"In some places you can climb over that wall and be on solid ground for metres, but in certain spots it's a straight drop down the gorge."

JoAnne Turner, executive director of the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara

Diving for a long-lost plane

A diver slips on his helmet as he gets ready to dive from the ship The Grapple off the coast of Longue-Pointe de Mingan, Que., on Wednesday. The mission is to search and recover the remains of five American crewmen of a U.S. Air Force PBY-5A Catalina seaplane that sank near the coast of the small village on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River in 1942. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Legislative committee

Ex-Ornge CEO to face further questioning

Former Ornge CEO Chris Mazza is being asked to face more questioning next week by members of a legislative committee looking into Ontario's troubled air ambulance service.

An emotional Mazza faced a day-long grilling by the committee last week, and said he didn't know what went wrong at Ornge, but that the Liberal government never told him he was veering off course.

Opposition sources said he is being recalled to testify again, but the date still has to be worked out.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thunder Bay

OPP shuts down drug ring run by inmate

Ontario provincial police say they have dismantled a prescription drug and cocaine trafficking ring allegedly run by a 39-year-old inmate from the Thunder Bay jail. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Greek athlete expelled over racist tweets

Track. Olympian's apologies come too late as politicians call for her removal

Triple jumper Voula Papachristou was expelled from Greece's Olympic team Wednesday for her comments on Twitter mocking African immigrants and expressing support for a far-right party.

The Hellenic Olympic Committee said Wednesday that Papachristou had been excluded from the team "for statements contrary to the values and ideas of the Olympic movement."

"It's the same as violating fair play," Isidoros Kouvelos, the head of Greece's Olympic mission, told Greece's Skai. "We are not here just to get medals, but to promote the Olympic ideals, to show our character."

Papachristou's Twitter account contained several retweets and links promoting the views of Golden Dawn, a formerly marginal extreme-right party.

But it was her attempt at a joke Sunday that went viral. Commenting on the widely reported appearance of Nile-virus-carrying mosquitoes in Athens, Papachristou wrote: "With so many Africans in Greece, the West Nile mosquitoes will be getting home food!!!"

After the comments and the ensuing uproar, the Hellenic Olympic Committee banned all Greek athletes from using social media to express any personal opinions not related to the Olympics.

Papachristou's attitude changed completely Wednesday and she posted six apologetic tweets in less than two hours. The decision to pull the 23-year-old from the team, however, was irreversible.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Damage control

"We are not here just to get medals, but to promote the Olympic ideals."

Isidoros Kouvelos, head of Greece's Olympic mission

Greece's Voula Papachristou at the women's triple-jump final at the European Athletics Championships in Helsinki, Finland.

MATT DUNHAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

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Ban Ki-moon urges world to stop the 'slaughter' of Syrians

UN. General-secretary says world failed to prevent similar tragedy in Bosnia, calls for Assad to step down

A damaged vehicle from clashes between Free Syrian Army soldiers and Syrian government troops is seen north of Aleppo on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/TURKPIX

UN General-Secretary Ban Ki-moon said Wednesday the world must unite in its response to Syria's civil war and do all it can to stop what he called the slaughter taking place there.

Speaking in Sarajevo, Ban said other countries intervened in Libya and the Ivory Coast to stop widespread killing there, but failed during Bosnia's 1992-95 war to prevent Bosnian Serbs from killing more than 8,000 Muslim Bosniaks in Srebrenica while the town was officially under UN protection.

But Ban did not say in his speech exactly what the international community should do in Syria beyond already calling for Syrian President Bashar Assad to step down. He also did not criticize Russia and China by name for vetoing a Western-backed UN resolution threatening Assad's regime with sanctions.

"We must work to prevent and respond to grave violations of international humanitarian law. That is why we acted in Libya. We acted in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast). Today, the international community is being tested in Syria," Ban said in a speech to Bosnia's Parliament.

As he spoke, Syrian tanks attacked insurgents in Aleppo, Syria, in an effort to end a five-day rebel fight to take the city. Activists say that Syria's 16-month-old uprising has killed 19,000 people.

The UN chief urged the international community to act together to take what he called "meaningful action."

"Without unity, there will be more bloodshed. More deadlock means more dead," Ban said. "That is why, here in the heart of a healing Bosnia and Herzegovina, I make a plea to the world: Do not delay. Come together. Act. Act now to stop the slaughter in Syria."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

'Quite simply, we must do better at seeing atrocities coming and telling it like it is. We cannot take refuge behind strong words and weak action."

Ban Ki-moon in a speech to Bosnia's parliament

'Post-Assad Syria' talks underway

Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird says discussions about a "post-Assad Syria" are underway, including what to do about the stockpile of chemical and biological weapons held by the country's regime.

"We're concerned about two things: them being used against the Syrian people, and two, we're concerned about their security both before and after the regime would fall," Baird said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Biological weapons

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Former U.S. lawmaker Giffords on first trip abroad since shooting

CERN. Giffords, who used to head U.S. space sub-committee, was accompanying astronaut husband to European physics lab

Former U.S. congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords toured a European particle-physics laboratory Wednesday, cheerfully facing reporters but saying little during her first trip abroad since being shot in the head last year.

Giffords was accompanying her husband, retired astronaut Mark Kelly, on a visit to the European Center for Nuclear Research. The lab, known as CERN, had assembled a $2-billion cosmic-ray detector that Kelly and his team carried to the International Space Station in May 2011.

That mission came just months after Giffords, a lawmaker from Arizona, was shot by a gunman in a Jan. 8, 2011, rampage that killed six and wounded 13 outside a Tucson supermarket. Since then, Giffords has undergone intensive therapy and made dramatic progress, but she also decided to leave her seat in Congress to focus on her recovery.

Former U.S. congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords and her astronaut husband, Mark Kelly, in the French Alps on Monday. MIKE STRUIK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

During a press conference Wednesday, Kelly joined CERN officials and four other astronauts in recalling the delicate task of installing the seven-ton Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer on the space station so that it could scan the universe for signs of dark matter and anti-matter. Kelly commanded the mission, which was the final flight of Space Shuttle Endeavour.

Nobel laureate Samuel Ting, a physicist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the principal investigator for the CERN-based project, said the detector is functioning "perfectly" and an international team of 600 scientists has now collected data from 18 billion cosmic rays.

Giffords, a Democrat, served on the House Science and Technology Committee, and took on NASA affairs while heading the space subcommittee. Ting singled her out for praise because of her support for the U.S. space program. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mexico

Mine blast kills 2, 5 others missing

Emergency personnel recovered the bodies of two miners killed in a gas explosion Wednesday at a coal mine in northern Mexico. Hopes are dwindling of finding any of the other five missing miners alive. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Florida

Bond denied in hazing case

A judge has denied bond to former Florida A&M University band member Caleb Jackson charged in the hazing death of drum major Robert Champion, who died in November after being beaten on a bus in Orlando. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Myanmar

Suu Kyi calls for ethnic rights

Myanmar opposition leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi used her first speech in parliament Wednesday to call for laws protecting the rights of the country's impoverished ethnic minorities. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Loblaw to open 700 Joe Fresh stores in the U.S.

Grocery chain. Canadian brand announces partnership with U.S. retailer J.C. Penney as it ramps up its fashion line

Loblaw Companies Ltd. plans to unveil about 700 Joe Fresh stores in the U.S. next year as Canada's largest grocery chain works to ramp up sales of its hip fashion line to help bolster earnings that dropped by 19 per cent in its most recent quarter.

Loblaw's Joe Fresh clothing brand announced Wednesday it has formed a partnership with U.S. retailer J.C. Penney Co. to open 700 stores in the U.S. in 2013 that will run for four years.

The move comes amid a massive overhaul of Loblaw's information-technology and supply-chain software system that is set to cost the company billions.

The capital-intensive rollout, along with a hyper-competitive grocery market in Canada, has eaten into its bottom line.

Loblaw reported second-quarter net earnings of $159 million, or 56 cents per diluted share, down almost 19 per cent from the $197 million earned in the same period in 2011.

That missed analysts' calls for earnings of 62 cents per share by five cents.

Shares fell 1.5 per cent, or 47 cents, to close at $31.45 on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

"While I'm not happy that earnings are down, we are on plan," said Loblaw president Vicente Trius on a conference call Wednesday.

Revenue came in at $7.37 billion for the period ended June 16, an increase of 1.3 per cent from the $7.28 billion over the second quarter of 2011.

Retail sales and same-store sales grew 1.1 per cent and 0.2 per cent, respectively.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Across Canada

Loblaw, a subsidiary of George Weston Ltd., operates more than 1,000 stores across Canada under numerous banners, including Great Canadian Super Store, Provigo, No Frills and Atlantic Superstore.

- The company employs 138,000 full- and part-time workers.

Mountain Lion leaps from iPhones to computers

A customer looks at the new OS X Mountain Lion operating system at an Apple store in Palo Alto, Calif., Wednesday. Apple Inc. released its new operating system for Mac computers on Wednesday, with features borrowed from mobile devices and a tighter integration with online file storage. The new software narrows the gap between the PC and phone software packages, making Mac personal computers work more like iPhones and iPads. PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Agriculture

Drought predicted to push food prices

The U.S. government is projecting the record drought gripping half the country will help push food prices up by three per cent to four per cent next year.

Figures released by the Department of Agriculture on Wednesday show that beef prices are expected to see the biggest jump at four per cent to five per cent.

Dairy product prices are expected to climb 3.5 per cent to 4.5 per cent. Poultry prices are expected to rise three per cent to four per cent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 98.5¢ US (+0.5¢)

TSX 11,492.51 (+25.56)

OIL $88.97 US (+47¢)

GOLD $1,608.10 US (+$31.90)

Natural gas: $3.07 US (-11.7¢)
Dow Jones: 12,676.05 (+58.73)

Potash mine. 50 Irish recruits laid off in Sask.

Twenty Irish immigrants recruited to work in Saskatchewan have been laid off.

The workers were among 50 pipefitters who were helping to expand Agrium's Vanscoy potash mine southwest of Saskatoon. A spokesperson for contractor PCL Construction says pipefitting work on the project has wrapped up for now, and isn't expected to resume until early next year.

PCL spokesman Mike Long says there was a gap in the schedule the company didn't foresee when recruitment was going on. Long said the company and provincial officials met with the Irish workers to help them find new work, but he says the workers "didn't really seem interested in taking us up on our offer to help them."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Recruitment mission

280

PCL was among 27 Saskatchewan employers who offered a total of 280 jobs to Irish skilled workers as part of a recruitment mission in that country earlier this year.

Oil. Industry minister to review $15B US Nexen bid

Canada's industry minister isn't dropping any hints about whether he will approve or reject a Chinese state-owned company's multibillion-dollar bid for Calgary-based Nexen Inc.

And just like Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Christian Paradis is warning Canadians not to jump to any conclusions about which way it will go.

Paradis says he'll wait until he reviews an application from China National Offshore Oil Company — also known as CNOOC Ltd. — before deciding whether or not to green-light the $15.1-billion US transaction.

CNOOC's proposed all-cash takeover of oil and gas producer Nexen was a friendly bid, offering shareholders a 60-per-cent premium on their holdings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The bottom line

"It has to be for the net benefit of this country. This is the bottom line here."

Industry minister Christian Paradis on Chinese company's bid for Nexen Inc.

Trade. Canada pushes for relations with Myanmar

After years of imposing tough sanctions, Canada announced a push Wednesday to open up economic relations with Myanmar, saying International Trade Minister Ed Fast and a delegation of business leaders would travel to the strategically placed Southeast Asian nation in September.

Fast will be the first cabinet minister to visit the country since trade sanctions were eased at the end of April and Canada announced it would open an embassy in the capital, Rangoon, in recognition of Myanmar's moves to improve human rights and democracy.

However pro-democracy and human-rights groups are warning that Myanmar is still facing serious human-rights issues. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Closed door

Firms at a closed-door roundtable meeting in Toronto included Research In Motion, SNC-Lavalin, Bombardier and consulting firms Nextep Strategy Inc., Prudential Consulting Inc. and Deloitte.

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Can movies save RIM's Playbook?

Tech troubles.
Research in Motion takes yet another hit as the New York Times does away with its BlackBerry app

Can Hollywood blockbusters help save the PlayBook?

BlackBerry maker Research in Motion has launched a new movie-store app for owners of its tablet, which has struggled to gain market share since it launched last year.

The lack of a movie store and the lack of native email were two of the chief criticisms of the tablet when it was first launched. The email issue was solved this February with the unveiling of the new PlayBook 2.0 operating system.

The BlackBerry Video Store, run by Rovi Entertainment, was launched in the U.S. earlier this year, but made its Canadian debut Wednesday.

According to a spokesperson, users can sample before they purchase, with movie and TV trailers available free of charge. Happy Feet 2 and Sherlock Holmes: Games of Shadows, were among the thousands of movies available for rent or purchase.

"Customers ... won't have to wait for the entire file to transfer before they can begin enjoying great entertainment," said spokesperson Nick Manning in an emailed statement.

Meanwhile, RIM's BlackBerry took a hit in the content department Wednesday with news the New York Times was jettisoning its BlackBerry app, while keeping its iPhone and Android apps.

RIM executive Martyn Mallick said BlackBerry is still a good way for newspapers to engage their readers, despite the NYT decision.

"Our base of 78 million BlackBerry users worldwide represents a significant opportunity for content partners to reach their audiences.

"There are more than 2,100 news and information apps for North America alone," Mallick said in an emailed statement.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tablet market

According to a recent study from Strategy Analytics, Apple's iPad has roughly 68 per cent of the global tablet market, with tablets running Google's Android operating system in second, with 29.3 per cent. Microsoft tablets have 1.2 per cent share, while the "other" category, including PlayBook, also has 1.2 per cent.

Apportunities

"Our base of 78 million BlackBerry users worldwide represents a significant opportunity for content partners to reach their audiences."
RIM executive Martyn Mallick

Peugeot protest takes over heart of Paris

Workers for French automaker PSA Peugeot Citroen march past the Arc de Triomphe in Paris during a demonstration on Wednesday. Tough conditions in Europe pushed Peugeot Citroen into a first-half loss of $990 million US, just as the company is facing off with the French government over a restructuring plan. The company, which makes two-thirds of France's cars, is in a tailspin as the deepening European recession takes a toll on its business. JACQUES BRINON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sour note. Lady Gaga sued over doll deal

A toy company is suing Lady Gaga for more than $10 million US, claiming the pop star sabotaged a deal to make a doll in her outlandish likeness that would also play snippets of her music.

In a suit filed in New York City on Tuesday, MGA Entertainment, the maker of the popular Bratz doll line, said it paid a $1-million advance to the company that handles Gaga's merchandising and spent a mint racing to meet deadlines to ship the dolls this summer.

The toy maker said the plan was derailed in the spring when the merchandiser, Bravado International, abruptly tried to back out of the part of the deal allowing the dolls to use the singer's music. MGA said Bravado then tried to delay sales of the doll until next year, when her new album is expected to be released.

Lady Gaga THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The toy company claimed the singer's representatives ultimately stopped co-operating with the project while she went on a world tour.

A representative for Lady Gaga called the lawsuit "ill-conceived" and said there was "no legitimate reason" to drag the singer into a dispute primarily between MGA and Bravado, a subsidiary of Universal Music.

Bravado issued a statement through a spokesman calling the lawsuit "meritless."

In the lawsuit, MGA's lawyers claimed that Lady Gaga's representatives were initially thrilled with the doll prototypes, although they had asked for a few tweaks. In one email cited in the lawsuit, Bobby Campbell, the vice-president of Gaga's management company, the Atom Factory, asked if the doll could be "more supermodel-like" with "more of a cat-eye and sexier, poutier lips." He also discussed a doll with a removable head that would pop off to reveal a bloody stump.

"We would like to see options with and without a bloody stump for comparison," he wrote. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Real estate. Prices may fall by 25 per cent: Report

If the Canadian real-estate market continues to cool, house prices could see substantial declines next year and could fall by as much as 25 per cent over the long term, according to an report released Wednesday by Capital Economics.

Canada's real-estate market is showing signs of cooling off following a post-recession boom sparked by a move to ultra-low interest rates. Both national home sales and the average home price were down year-over-year last month, indicators that the national market could be slowing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Media. Newsweek reviewing its future

The head of the company that owns Newsweek says the publication is examining its future as a weekly print magazine.

During a conference call with analysts Wednesday, IAC/InterActiveCorp chairman Barry Diller said that while Newsweek's brand is strong around the world, producing a weekly news magazine in print form isn't easy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A PREVIEW OF OLYMPIC PROPORTIONS

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

How will London cope this week as it's hit with pollution, traffic congestion and rabid media attention for the first time in history?

This and other questions will be answered as the Triple-X Olympiad officially gets underway Friday. We don't trust you to watch the right events and have the proper emotional reaction to them, so here's a list of the biggest storylines we demand you watch for.

Are they ready? The Olympics are home to some dependable traditions, and one of the most consistent is the Lamenting of the Games. Before every Olympics, the media make it sound like the runners will have their times slowed by wet cement and divers will be jumping into empty swimming pools, their falls broken by contractors desperately trying to get the host city ready.

In London, the biggest problem appears to be security, which was thrown into shambles when it was revealed that a key security firm didn't have enough people and was handing out sashes that said "hall monitor" to anybody who asked.

Now they've called in the army, because nothing makes people feel secure like soldiers in the streets.

If things work out, the media will call it a miracle of Olympic proportions. If things don't work out, the media will call it a catastrophe of Olympic proportions. (We're on tight deadlines.)

Open questions. The opening ceremonies have become an important show of national pride for the host country. Can Britain's gymnasts and interpretive dancers do justice to Britain's food, emotion and weather? One organizer gave a tantalizing hint when he promised "more shades of grey than you've ever seen."

All-time record? If American swimmer Michael Phelps dominates, he'll become the most decorated Olympian ever. This will be a major embarrassment for Canada, because Phelps will surpass the total distance travelled by Canada's submarine fleet.

Hoop dreams. It promises to be a special moment when the world puts aside its differences, joins hands and prays for the humiliating defeat of the U.S. basketball team. The chance to cheer against Kobe Bryant and LeBron James simultaneously is rare and should be cherished.

Star watch. World-famous athletes won't be the only celebrities, as entertainment superstars descend on London including uber-couple Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. Watch for North Korean athletes to wander near Jolie in hopes she'll adopt them.

Whither Canada? Sportswriters went all gooey during the Vancouver Games about how Canada had finally come of age — just like we did during Vimy Ridge, the Second World War, Expo '67, Summit Series '72 and that "Joe Canadian" Molson commercial. I thought that was mostly hooey because Canada won the most gold medals; it's easy to stand up loud and proud when you're winning. Since Canada doesn't do as well at the Summer Olympics, here's our big chance to reveal our true patriotism. Otherwise we're just Phoenix Coyotes fans on a playoff run.

That said, I trust we'll see lots of Canadians standing on the podium. Assuming it's constructed on time.

Britain's government opted Tuesday to deploy 1,200 more troops to protect Olympic venues, a move that reflects a lack of confidence in a private security contractor. But let's not stop there. There's much more cause for concern — too much to keep track of — so we highlight the best of the worst. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Travelling in London an Olympic sport?

CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Summer Games

VIP lanes, the Tube cause delays

Wednesday saw an uncertain test of the British capital's Olympic transport plan, as lanes reserved for Olympic VIPs came into force two days before the start of the Games and the city's creaky subway system struggled with glitches.

Traffic jams blocked some of the main routes into the city as the wildly unpopular "Games Lanes" took effect. The 48 kilometres of lanes are to operate from 6 a.m. to midnight throughout the Games, and cars or taxi cabs that stray into them face a $200 US fine.

Thousands of London drivers have switched to public transport, only to encounter severe delays on several underground subway lines caused by power-supply problems and signal failures. Severe delays were reported Wednesday on the city's Central and Hammersmith subway lines.

Transportation is London's weak spot: Traffic often clogs up on its narrow, historic roads, bus schedules can change at a moment's notice, and the famous Underground suffers from daily delays and infrastructure that in parts is more than a century old.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Criticism over designation

- The International Olympic Committee had specifically demanded VIP road lanes be created after learning lessons from previous Games.
- In London, some of the loudest opposition to the Olympic VIP lanes has come from the city's cabbies, who have staged two recent demonstrations that brought central London traffic to a standstill. They say being banned from Olympic lanes jeopardizes their business.

Hanging on a wire

Cable car stranded above Thames

Cable-car passengers got plenty of time to view London's sights after the system linking two Olympic venues broke down and left them stranded above the River Thames Wednesday.

The cable-car system, dubbed the Emirates Air Line, opened last month and links the 02 Arena in Greenwich — which will host Olympic basketball and gymnastics — and the ExCel exhibition centre, where boxing will take place. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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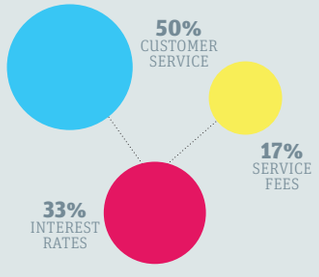

Twitter

@KenBryan:
"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." - Eleanor Roosevelt #Danzig #TOpoli #Toronto

@Bubz758:
What? No liquor @ #Caribana? What kinda mas madness is dis? Missing #StLucia Carnival :(

@Dimples_0110:
Looking forward to #Caribana weekend, Excited to hear some soca and get my dance on.

@katietodt:
Get the night off.. Go to @BlueJays. If I'm not there working I'm watching.

@AboSwag:
This is going to be a looooooooooooooong night @ BlueJays @RickyRo24 #BlueJays

@cpetronis:
Didn't think I'd ever have to tell a 10 year old he can't smoke cigarettes near the pool...

metro

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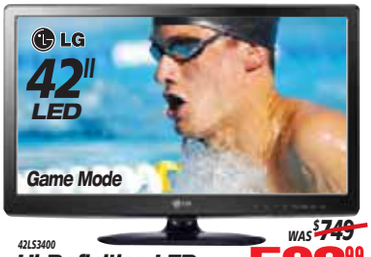

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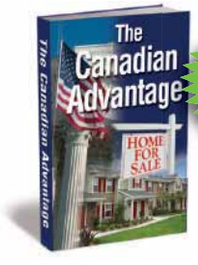

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Get your strings on, Toronto

Classical IV.

Harbourfront music curator says genre is neither erudite nor boring — just really talented folk playing sophisticated tunes

BACKSTAGE PASS
Ian Gormely
scene@metronews.ca

There have been many attempts to make classical music more palatable for the masses. But while most efforts were based on re-contextualizing an existing canon, the folks down at Harbourfront are looking to redefine the genre entirely.

"It's sophisticated music played by a virtuoso," says Caroline Hollway, curator for this weekend's Classical IV: Strings series of performances. "The person playing it brings out the full sound in the instrument. To me that's what classical means."

The event features an eclectic mix of musicians and musical styles, from Maryem Hassan Tollar playing Kate Bush covers on an Iranian Qanun, to the Lute Legends Ensemble bringing together European, Middle Eastern and Chinese musical traditions.

"The importance is that musicianship on the stage is really high," she says. "What they're playing comes from some sort of classical background in the broadest sense."

Booking Malian guitarist Sidi Touré was a stroke of luck. An African musician signed to post-rock and experimental-music-leaning label Thrill Jockey, his combination of traditional Malian music with western blues and rock traditions is, in many ways, the epitome of Hollway's definition of classical music.

She hopes the weekend's performances broaden horizons and promote discussion. Hollway worked with community arts projects in the U.K. before heading up the public education component at a Canadian opera company. Her efforts to "demystify" artistic styles often dismissed as erudite and boring eventually saw Harbourfront come knocking.

"I was invited to come in and think about the old, 'What is classical?' chestnut and come up with a weekend where we can explore that," she says. And while she's proud of the weekend's line-up, she believes there's always room for improvement. "I didn't find a sitar school. But maybe next year."

Classical IV: Strings — July 27 to 29. Harbourfront Centre, 235 Queens Quay W. Free.

Ukulele play-along

Become the performance

Along with the myriad shows occurring throughout the weekend, Classical IV includes one piece that asks the audience to become the performance. With the Ukulele Project, organizers are encouraging anyone with a uke to come down and take part in a performance of Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. "We don't know what it will be like," admits Hollway. Harbourfront will be providing sheet music and tabs for players, but not the ukes themselves. She says the instrument is on a hot streak with musicians thanks to their portability and relatively short learning curve. "You'd be amazed," she says. "Ask around, within three contacts you'll know somebody that has one."

Classical IV: Strings series of performances is being held at the Harbourfront this weekend. COURTESY CRAIG BAILEY

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TV's Sister Wives family challenges Utah bigamy law as unconstitutional

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Watch for another level of camaraderie in new flick

Emotional connection. Big cast has big friendships in new comedy about an alien invasion of suburban Ohio

Ben Stiller, Johnny Pemberton and Jonah Hill star in The Watch. MELINDA SUE GORDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

One of the benefits of doing an ensemble comedy is catching up with old friends. At least, that's how it was on The Watch for Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn, who co-star with Jonah Hill and Richard Ayoade as concerned citizens investigating what turns out to be an alien invasion in their suburban Ohio neighbourhood.

Stiller and Vaughn previously squared off in Dodgeball, but here they're playing something a bit chummier.

"I love working with these guys. It's great to work with the people who make you laugh and who are funnier," Stiller admits. "Vince and I had a really fun time working on Dodgeball together and it was exciting to have a chance to do something. It had been a while for us, so it was exciting to have a chance to do something new together."

Reunions aside, Stiller also enjoyed letting loose in a comedy that didn't have the same restrictions as his more family-friendly fare.

"The fun thing for me is to be a part of a movie where you don't have to worry," Stiller admits. "Being in an R-rated film, you can have a lot more freedom."

And that freedom doesn't just mean more violence and cursing, but it extends to how the characters are depicted as well, as the four men aren't forced into learning some sort of lesson or personal growth.

"I don't think it was about having it all sort of tied up in bow. It was more about these guys hanging out and how they affected each other, but it wasn't like about teaching lessons or anything," Stiller says. "I do think there is sort of, you know, an emotional connection these guys do have by ending up being together."

While Stiller, Vaughn and Hill are familiar faces to comedy audiences, the forth member of their neighbourhood watch might not be: British actor and director Richard Ayoade, who directed last year's Submarine (executive-produced by Stiller), admits he felt like he stuck out a bit in the cast.

"I've never been in a film, not really," Ayoade admits. "My wife said — and she's right — it's going to look like I won a competition to be in a film with movie stars. And there were several days when I was like, 'Why are Ben Stiller, Vince Vaughn and Jonah Hill looking at me? Oh! I'm in a scene with them. I ought to start trying to act back.' It's very surreal and I'm a huge fan of these people. It was a great pleasure for me to get to somewhat bring down the film by being in it."

Vaughn, of course, thinks Ayoade's self-deprecation is misplaced.

"Richard is so funny. It was so fun, he brought such an original voice and great ideas and is just funny in the movie," Vaughn says. "You get a bunch of guys together from different walks of life and at the end of the day there's a lot of laughter and a lot of camaraderie."

The Watch

Vince Vaughn adjusting to being a parent

- **Daughters.** In The Watch, Vince Vaughn's character has a rather argumentative relationship with an unruly teenage daughter trying to grow up too fast. In real life, Vaughn has just welcomed his first daughter. So did the movie give him any premonitions of troubles to come? "My daughter is just 19, 20 months now, so I'm along away from that," he admits. "Thankfully I'm a long, long way from answering any of those questions as far as being protective. But I have encouraged her to get on some scooters — motor scooters — motorized vehicles. That kind of stuff. I threw her in the pool, but she swam so it's fine."

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Johnny Depp, left, as Tonto, a spirit warrior on a personal quest, who joins forces in a fight for justice with Armie Hammer, as John Reid, a lawman who has become a masked avenger in the Lone Ranger. PETER MOUNTAIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lone Ranger remains a sore spot for some

Gyasi Ross grew up decades after the Lone Ranger aired on TV, but his friends would still call him Tonto when they teased him.

"Everybody understands who Tonto is, even if we hadn't seen the show, and we understood it wasn't a good thing," said Ross, a member of the Blackfeet Nation in Montana who lives and has family in the Suquamish Tribe, outside Seattle.

"Why else would you tease someone with that?"

The making of a new Lone Ranger Disney movie, and the announcement that Johnny Depp is playing sidekick Tonto, have reawakened feelings about a character that has drawn much criticism over the years as being a Hollywood creation guilty of spreading stereotypes.

The film is still in production, but Indian Country has been abuzz about it for months, with many sharing opinions online and a national Native publication running an occasional series on the topic.

Some Native Americans welcome the new movie, which is slated for release next summer. Parts were filmed on the Navajo Nation with the tribe's support, and an Oklahoma tribe recently made Depp an honorary member.

But for others, the Lone Ranger represents a lingering sore spot — one that goes back to the 1950s television version of Tonto, who spoke in broken English, wore buckskin and lacked any real cultural traits.

Depp's role attracted particular attention in April when producer Jerry Bruckheimer tweeted a picture of the actor in his Tonto costume. He had on black and white face paint, an intense gaze, a black bird attached to his head and plenty of decorative feathers.

"The moment it hit my Facebook newsfeed, the updates from my friends went nutso," wrote Natanya Ann Pulley, a doctorate student at University of Utah, in an essay for the online magazine McSweeney's.

For Pulley and her friends, the portrayal of Native Americans in Western movies is getting old.

"I'm worried about the Tonto figure becoming a parody or a commercialized figure that doesn't have any dimension or depth. Or consideration for contemporary context of Native Americans," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quote

"I'm worried about the Tonto figure becoming a parody or a commercialized figure that doesn't have any dimension or depth."

Natanya Ann Pulley

Love Community? NBC isn't sold on it

TV. At the Television Critics Association press tour, the struggling network said its focus is shifting to broader comedy

AMBER RAY
Metro World News

Is Crystal the Monkey on Animal Practice doing to save NBC? GETTY IMAGES

Can a monkey save NBC?

The network that routinely finishes last in ratings among the big four broadcast companies is in a state of transition, most obviously seen in its approach to comedy this fall.

Where NBC has been a haven for critically loved, cult-hit sitcoms that don't draw massive amounts of viewers, the network is now introducing comedies starring a lab-coat wearing monkey (Animal Practice) and babies raised by clueless, yet caring, dads (Guys with Kids.)

"We're going to transition with our comedy programming and … try to broaden the audience and broaden what the network does," Robert Greenblatt, chairman of NBC Entertainment, told journalists gathered at the Television Critics Association press tour in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Wednesday.

"Those Thursday comedies, which the critics love and we love, tend to be a bit more narrow than we'd ultimately like as we go forward."

Greenblatt was referring to shows like Parks and Recreation and 30 Rock, and more specifically, Community, which featured an entire episode that played out in the style of an 8-bit video game last season. Though all three were renewed for next season, as of late Community has received little love from NBC, which fired the show's creator, ordered only 13 episodes, and pushed the show back to Fridays.

"The reason that we did 13 episodes of that and a couple of our other shows is because we really wanted to get more comedies on the schedule … which isn't to say we couldn't decide at some point to extend those seasons," Greenblatt said. "I would love nothing more than Community to have a following on Friday and to be able to continue it."

NBC offering even that amount of support to a similarly quirky new series doesn't appear likely. Greenblatt called those creatively robust, yet ill-performing sitcoms "a little bit more sophisticated than I think you might want for a real broad audience."

And what says "mass appeal" better than animals and babies?

"We didn't sit down and say, 'Let's find some shows with babies and animals everywhere,' but we did buy into visions from creators that we felt were funny, specific, emotional and original," said Jennifer Salke, NBC president.

Kiefer Sutherland. 24 movie will get made, sooner rather than later

Kiefer Sutherland says don't worry, Jack Bauer fans. That 24 movie will get made, sooner rather than later.

"Yeah, I don't want to do it with a cane," says the 45-year-old actor, who played the ruthless anti-terrorist agent Jack Bauer for eight seasons on the Fox action series.

Sutherland was at the Fox network's Television Critics Association summer press tour party Monday night to promote his latest series, Touch. It premiered last winter to good reviews but middle-of-the-pack ratings.

A script for the long-delayed 24 movie just wasn't ready in time for Sutherland to shoot it during the hiatus from Touch. Fox now has production penciled in for next spring.

Sutherland hopes his new series will be hard to schedule around for quite a while.

He enjoyed working on the 13-episode winter and spring run.

He felt the drama — about a father and his 11-year-old emotionally disturbed and mute son (played by David Mazouz) — was really hitting its creative stride by the end of that first season.

Executive producer Tim Kring (Heroes) says the stakes will be higher when the series returns this fall. Father and son will be on the run. A new character, played by Maria Bello (who starred last fall in the short-lived drama Prime Suspect), will join the cast, a move Sutherland could not be more excited about.

"She's phenomenal," he says. Bello will play a character with a child facing similar challenges. Conversations between the two struggling parents will help viewers understand things that were difficult to communicate and explain in season one, as Sutherland sees it.

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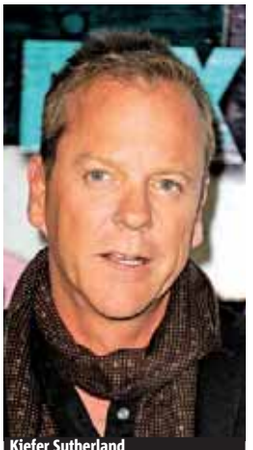

Kiefer Sutherland
GETTY IMAGES

Touch

Touch has struggled with ratings but Sutherland said he was happy that Fox was giving the show time to find its audience and connect the way 24 had done for Sutherland.

- **Big name.** At least one other big name is being added to the cast. Sutherland told reporters it was too early to announce just who that was, but the name being bandied about "is pretty exciting," he says.

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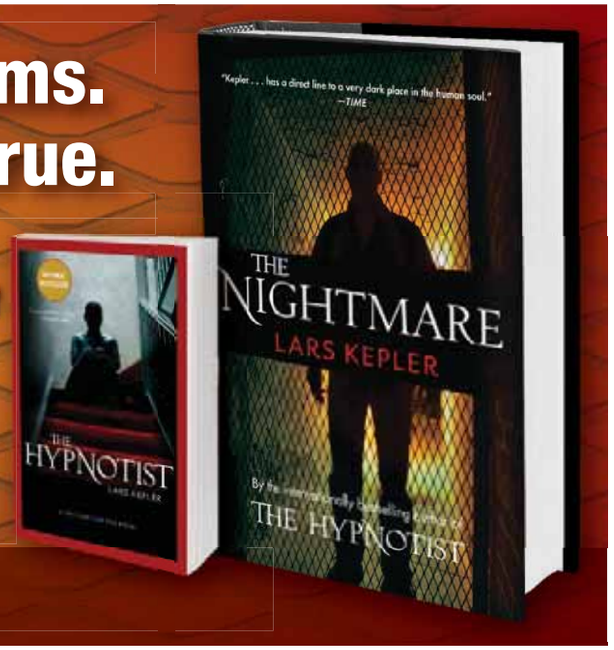
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Emily Maynard, left, and Jef Holm will begin their lives together. RICK ROWELL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Maynard and Holm not sure about a television wedding

The Bachelorette. Couple begins planning their life together as well as how their big day will play out

Emily Maynard's courtship with Jef Holm may have played out on national TV on ABC's The Bachelorette, but whether their wedding will be televised is still up in the air.

"I never in a million years thought I'd be the Bachelorette, so I've learned never say never, especially in public," Maynard said in an interview.

On Sunday's finale, the 26-year-old Maynard revealed she chose Holm, a 27-year-old entrepreneur from Salt Lake City, over racecar driver Arie Luyendyk Jr., the son of Indianapolis 500 winner Arie Luyendyk.

If the couple do decide to marry on television, they won't be the first Bachelor or Bachelorette couple to do so.

Trista and Ryan Sutter's wedding was televised in a three-part special in 2003. Jason and Molly Mesnick, of The Bachelor, also taped their 2010 nuptials for TV.

One thing Maynard and Holm do have planned is to end their long-distance relationship as soon as possible. Holm says he's hoping to move to Charlotte, N.C., in August in time for Maynard's daughter, Ricki, to go back to school.

"I want to get there and hang out with her and get into daily life with her and with Emily. Figure it out together," said Holm.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quote

"I've learned never say never, especially in public."

Emily Maynard
On having a television marriage

Television

NBC series to take a bite out of Dracula classic

NBC is sinking its teeth into the classic tale of Dracula for a new drama series. The network announced Tuesday a 10-episode version of the Bram Stoker novel. Jonathan Rhys Meyers has the title role as the vampire set in Victorian-era England.

Irish actor Meyers is known for starring in the Showtime series The Tudors, and for the TV film Elvis. Dracula is from the producers behind the acclaimed hit Downton Abbey. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sharon Osbourne. Takes to Twitter to announce she is leaving Got Talent

Sharon Osbourne said Tuesday that she's ready to say goodbye to NBC's America's Got Talent, taking the network by surprise.

In a posting on Twitter, Osbourne addressed "my darling" fellow judge Howard Stern and said, "money is not the reason I'm not returning" to the show. Her tweet trailed off with "it's because ...." and didn't elaborate.

Her message was unexpected, NBC said following the announcement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sharon Osbourne
GETTY IMAGES

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Bohemian style ... well sort of

Versatile wardrobe. Kate Hudson's closet brims with designer dresses, turquoise, pajamas and photo-shoot favourites

Despite having a closet that most women would envy, Kate Hudson likes staying in her PJs for as long as she can into the day.

Mornings, she says, are her favourite time with her sons — and that means a lot of pajama time.

"I love to see them wake up with their sleepy faces. It's when you see their personalities and how they deal with the morning," she says.

Bingham, 1, has blond hair that's long in some places, short in others, the 33-year-old actress says, and the morning is when it all sticks up. Her eight-year-old son, Ryder, asks for "5 more minutes" in bed but still eagerly comes to the table for breakfast.

"I like happy mornings. I grew up with happy mornings," says Hudson, the daughter of Goldie Hawn. "My parents were up and active and making breakfast, and that's what I try to do, but I usually do it in my nightie."

When it's time to get dressed on days she's not working, there are three choices, especially if she knows the paparazzi she doesn't love are lingering: She'll stay at home in comfy clothes that are only slightly elevated from her bedtime get-up, pull out the sunglasses with the biggest lenses she can find and otherwise stick to her favourite flowing tops and dresses, or put together a buzz-worthy ensemble that might help get some positive publicity for the designer.

Fashion, she adds, is one of the easiest — and favourite — parts of her job.

What are some things in her wardrobe? Turquoise jewelry, Emilio Pucci prints, a vintage Halston cape (she's still waiting for the right occasion to wear it) and the cheetah jeans and black flapper dress from her recent photo shoot for Ann Taylor's fall ad campaign. Hudson is reprising her role as spokesmodel.

Kate Hudson will be the face of clothing company Ann Taylor's fall 2012 campaign. ANN TAYLOR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I definitely have more of an easy style," she says. "I hate the word bohemian, but it sort of is."

Hudson is the first celebrity signed to Ann Taylor for three consecutive seasons, but there have been many other stars, including Demi Moore, Heidi Klum and Katie Holmes.

Hudson says she can't worry too much about those who came before her — or will come after her.

"When you're in this business as actresses and models, you know everyone is replaceable. Enjoy it while it's happening. Take each day as it's presented to you."

However, Hudson is planning for the day when she has a beneficiary of her healthy fashion habit.

"I archive a lot of my pieces — from when Stella (McCartney) was at Chloe and Tom Ford at YSL and Gucci," Hudson says.

"My mom never kept her clothes. She was big into (Azzedine) Alaia clothes and she didn't keep them! She also had Ossie Clark dresses from the '70s, and I never got to wear them, so I decided when and if I have a little girl in my life, maybe she'll be into them and want to go into my closet someday."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Animal Kingdom has something to say about the human condition

The Looking Away. New album carries theme of detachment — where people are separate from each other and the world

KILLIAN YOUNG
Metro World News in New York

British ambient alt-rockers Animal Kingdom derive their band name from two opposite sources: science and religion.

Singer, guitarist and pianist Richard Sauberlich says he was reading books like The Naked Ape and The Human Zoo, both by Desmond Morris.

"He's an anthropologist who examines human behaviour through the prism of animal behaviour, really," says Sauberlich. "And at the same time, I saw this picture in a children's Bible of Noah, in the ark, obviously. ... And the two just came together, joined together in my head."

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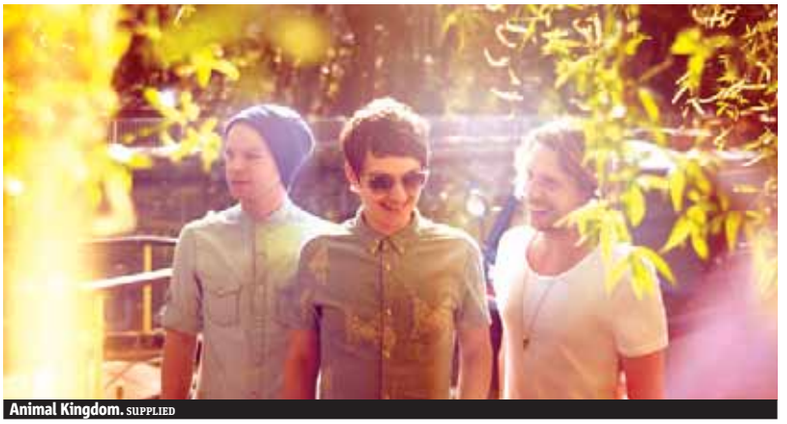
Band vs. Food

Challenges. Animal Kingdom also are active on Twitter. Sauberlich says that he and his fellow band members are big fans of the Travel Network's Man vs. Food, and have conversed over Twitter with Adam Richman, the star and host of the show, on where the band can try ridiculous gastric challenges while they tour the United States for the first time this summer.

He says the two ideas made him realize something about the human condition.

"I don't think we're necessarily, as humans, separate from or above the animals in terms of our basic drives and motivations," he says.

This inclusive philosophy stands in stark contrast to the material on Animal Kingdom's sophomore album, The Looking Away, where the main theme is one of detachment. On the album, humans are removed from their animal roots, as well from the tragedies of the world.



Animal Kingdom. SUPPLIED

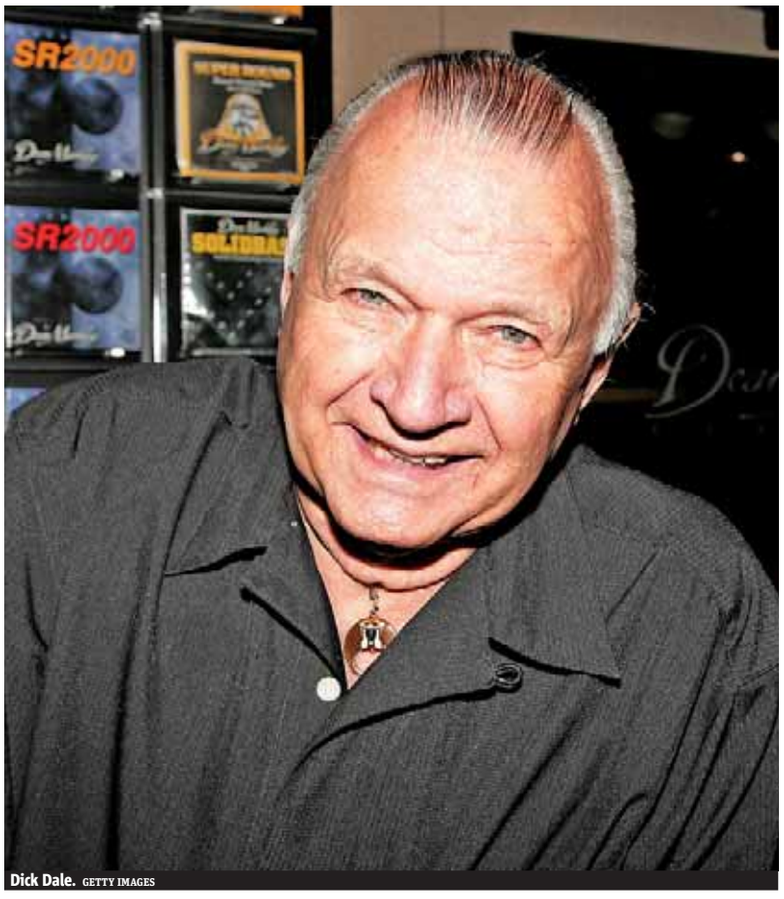
"I think it's something that we all do," Sauberlich says of the tendency toward tuning out bad news. "It takes an incredibly strong and brave character to stare at something that makes them uncomfortable 24/7, 365 (days) a year."

If there's one thing Animal Kingdom are not removed from, it's social media. While recording The Looking Away, the band asked fans to record themselves singing a lyric that would be compiled together for the ending of the track Straw Man. Although the fan-inspired version of the track didn't make the final cut, Sauberlich says that he was impressed by the response.

"It almost sounded like a lullaby with loads of people singing very subtly," Sauberlich says of the ending. "There's a nice message to the lyric, (which is) reinforced by ... the fans believing in doing it."

LOOKING TO MAKE A CAREER CHANGE?

Read metro work every Monday & Wednesday.



Dick Dale. GETTY IMAGES

King of the surf guitar on the road, helping others with cancer

Dick Dale. Musician tries to leave his own pain behind as he tours to connect with other sufferers of the disease

NOLAN GAWRON
Metro World News in Boston

Though it may be hard to believe, Dick Dale, king of the surf guitar, is actually from Massachusetts. Dale was born in South Boston and raised in Quincy.

"I have many, many fond memories there," notes Dale. "I remember playing Silent Night as an instrumental with my acoustic guitar in the winter at Quincy Point and walking home in the snow."

When his father got a job offer from Howard Hughes in 1954, the family moved to California and Dale began surfing — a hobby that would provide the primary influence for his signature sound. "Gene Cooper's drums and the way he accentuated became my picking style. I went from that to copying the sound of getting caught up in a very big wave," says Dale.

Now 75, Dale is coping with cancer and diabetes. While his health issues have kept him from surfing, they haven't stopped him from touring. Travelling together with his son who plays drums, Dale's wife also joins him on his journey as his nurse. "She's the one keeping me alive," says Dale. "We're on the road to help people going through the same thing that I'm going through and to have a different attitude and forget about our pain..."

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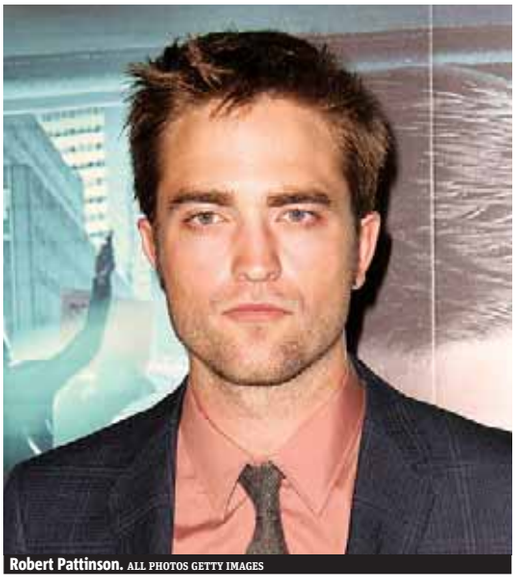
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Robert Pattinson. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Pattinson talks cheating

Robert Pattinson obviously won't be releasing a statement — he'll let some pretty young blond do the talking next week. So for now, all we've got is his April chat in Vanity Fair, where he conveniently discussed affairs.

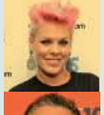
"There's a thing I've never got: That is, why do people cheat? I can understand the impulse," he says.

"But not how you can keep two relationships going at the same time for long. I'm not the casual-affair kind of guy. If I choose to be with someone, it's because I really want it. When I have a relationship, I'm 100 per cent into it."

Twitter

@katyperry
I always love seeing one single piece of confetti fall at an indie show.

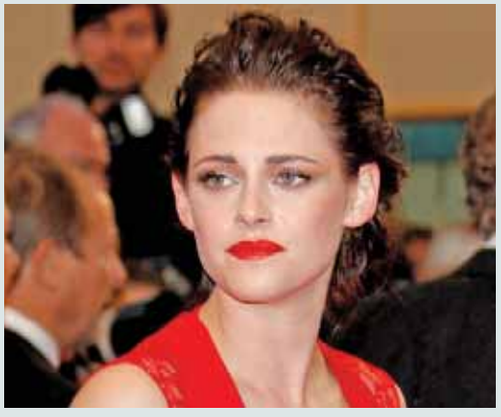
@JimCarrey
The violence within us is being fully exploited by the gun sellers in America.Let's end r addiction and entitlement to violence.



@Pink
As far as I'm concerned- Christmas prep has started. And I'm also now a member of the QVC. For real? Yes- For real. Yaye!!!!! Help!!!!!!!!

@ActuallyNPH
My favorite thing about Paris is the 'double kiss on the cheek' greeting. It is both intimate and disarming. I'm totally stealing that.

The Word



Kristen Stewart 'deeply sorry' about affair

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

We always blamed Kristen Stewart's ever-present pout on her distaste for photographers. Maybe an extra weird rash. Possibly a Spanx situation. But we never suspected that the problem could be Robert Pattinson, her much more photogenic boyfriend and Twilight co-star.

It seems, however, that while Stewart's been parading down red carpets with Pattinson, she's also been having a fling with Rupert Sanders, her married Snow White and the Huntsman director.

Us Weekly has pretty incriminating photographs of the two snuggled up to each other in Los Angeles on July 17, just a few days before Stewart and Pattinson attended the Teen Choice Awards together.

Witnesses tell RadarOnline that Sanders, 41, and Stewart, 22, "were hardly able to keep their hands off one another," as they drove around L.A., stopping occasionally to make out in parking lots.

Kristen, what do you have to say for yourself?

"I'm deeply sorry for the hurt and embarrassment I've caused to those close to me and everyone this has affected," she said in a statement released yesterday.

"This momentary indiscretion has jeopardized the most important thing in my life, the person I love and respect the most, Rob. I love him, I love him, I'm so sorry."

Kris, take it from us: Making creepy, inappropriate public appeals to Robert Pattinson in the gossip columns doesn't work. We've been trying for years, and he doesn't bite.

Rupert Sanders

Sanders' wife not warned

Not to be outdone, Rupert Sanders issued his own apology shortly after Stewart.

"I am utterly distraught about the pain I have caused my family," the director said in a statement. "My beautiful wife and heavenly children are all I have in this world. I love them with all my heart. I am praying that we can get through this together."

As for Sanders' wife, Liberty Ross, we doubt she's accepting the apology anytime soon. The British model seemed to learn about the affair along with everyone else yesterday, and proceeded to have a mini Twitter meltdown.

Before deactivating her account, she followed @Us Weekly and tweeted quotes from Marilyn Monroe and Maya Angelou, then signed off with a simple "Wow" — the 2012 equivalent of waking up to the Love Actually DVD menu in a puddle of Ben and Jerry's.

'I did not cuss Janet out'

The dispute between members of the Jackson family over the location of matriarch Katherine Jackson apparently came to a head this week with an altercation between family members on the grounds of their Calabasas, Calif., estate, according to TMZ.

Janet, Jermaine and Randy Jackson stormed the house to confront the children of the late Michael Jackson — Prince, Paris and Blanket, leading to cursing and blows. The adults then reportedly attempted to coerce the kids into going to Arizona — where their legal guardian, Katherine, is resting — against their will.

The ongoing troubles have prompted lawyers for Michael's estate to write an open letter expressing their concern.

"We are concerned that we do what we can to protect them from undue influences, bullying, greed and other unfortunate circumstances," executors John Branca and John McClain say in the letter.

Meanwhile, Paris Jackson took to Instagram to refute claims of a fight, posting, "Dear TMZ, no one slapped anyone, and I did not cuss Janet out."

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Retro-inspired looks were seen throughout the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Swim 2013 in Miami Beach, where more than two dozen designers showcased their latest collections. Swimstyle specialists took a nod from days gone by, from high waist briefs and the pinup girl look of the 1950s to the Studio 54 and Dolce Vita eras of the '60s and '70s. Dive right in!

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Splash from the past

WHITE SANDS AUSTRALIA

Romantic looks were seen on the runway at White Sands Australia. "It's very, very girly," said designer Leah Madden. "I always try to do things very pretty but sexy and with an edge. But this year it's more pretty and more feminine."

Madden kept it simple for The Violet Hour collection. She used touches of ruffles, neon pastel colours (green) and a vintage floral print with large violets over a white palette to create the blissful looks.

DOLORES CORTES

Miami Beach was the inspiration for Spanish designer Dolores Cortes, who used vitamin colours and a touch of neon in her sophisticated collection.

Golden reflective laminates were superimposed on some pieces, while others had a mix of animal prints and bright stains to give the wild yet chic look. There were a ton of prints, some with a tie-dye effect. Bikinis included a multi-coloured bandeau top with an animal print bottom. Multiple patterns took over a one-piece and a monikini with bright pops of colour, and crochet and mesh also made appearances.

LISA BLUE

Kicking off swim week was the Lisa Blue collection, where Australian designer Lisa Burke featured a collection of very different styles.

The Enchantress collection opened the show with a white monokini with gold trimmings. The blue colour of the ocean was also seen on the goddess-like models walking slowly — enchantedly — down the runway.

Karina Smirnoff of Dancing with the Stars picked up the pace as she danced in a bright pink, ruffled-top bikini and a Flamenco-style long skirt for the second Flamenco-inspired collection, which included a one-shoulder bikini top with ruffles on the bottom piece.

NICOLITA

The Nicolita collection can be described as a collection of sexy swimwear with curve-flattering styles reminiscent of Cuba's alluring 1940s era — but with a California twist.

The Havana Nights Collection by designer Nicole Di Rocco drew inspiration from her Cuban roots and experiences in Malibu with the help of singer Christina Milian, who said finding the right fabrics was more difficult than she had expected.

The collection had plenty of coverups that can transition from day to night, including a short layered animal-print skirt and high waisted blue pants.

ALL PHOTOS: J PAT CARTER / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AGUA BENDITA

Cropped jackets with military hardware or maritime accents were part of the Lovely Heroes collection for Agua Bendita. Designers Catalina Alvarez and Mariana Hinestroza wanted to pay homage to the 700 men and women who work on each of the hand-made garments in Colombia.

The collection included military, maritime, cowboy and neon-inspired styles that were embellished with beads, appliques and sequins. The AB logo was emblazoned on the espadrilles the models wore and a hot pink plastic handbag that opened the show.

RED CARTER

The story of Red Carter's life and recent move from Miami to New York City inspired his latest collection, which included shiny disco balls and chunky geometric heels.

The art deco looks included black and white pieces in architectural shapes and a hint of vintage feeling with geometric hairstyles. There was a tangerine deep-V ruffle one-piece and art deco-inspired demi-underwire and skirted hipster bottom. Many had hints of glitter or gold such as in the black and white "glitter bomb" monikini.

The second part, the "Brazilesque with disco balls" looks included a safari bandeau and hipster bottom, a black handkerchief bandeau and safari hipster bottom.

On the Web

Abby Larson, editor and founder of the stylish wedding website, on making your celebration Pinterest gold.

Twitter

JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
life@metronews.ca

IN THIS HECTIC MODERN WORLD, TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND, AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

@Jeanne_Beker: On @CTVCanadaAM this week dissing BAD past Olympic uniforms. Can't wait to see sartorial fare when games open. What makes a GOOD uniform?

@Jeanne_Beker: Young lovelies line-up to strut their stuff @elmerolsenmodel Boot Camp to Big Time

@Cameronstudio
simplicity, elegance and #athleticism

@Jeanne_Beker
Agreed! Modernity is cool too. I think the Olympics should inspire us to go FORWARD!

@Amy_Scarlett
PROPORTIONS! Athletic figures need good proportions to balance out their figures

@Jeanne_Beker
totally! And let's not forget these are some of the world's BEST bodies!

@Jeanne_Beker: The stunning 16 year.old Hayley McKee (now called "Dauphine" with Elmer @ElmerOlsenModel Boot Camp.

@Jeanne_Beker: Cool active-wear looks featured @TheMarilynShow this morning. Am I ever a shrimp without my heels!

The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Chatelaine C
Student
Age: 25

What she's wearing:
H&M sunglasses, vintage silk dress bought in Stanley Market in Hong Kong, H&M sandals.

Her inspiration:
"Feel good, look good!"

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Did you know Bobcaygeon has the oldest locks on the Trent-Severn Waterway system? Built more than 160 years ago, the wooden swing bridge was the first constructed on the waterway. Its prime location makes it the best place to watch the boats cross between Pigeon and Sturgeon lakes.

It's also the site of the Boyd Heritage Museum, filled with facts and memorabilia about the early days of Bobcaygeon … even before the Tragically Hip checked out the big night sky for constellations and Kawartha Dairy invented Moose Tracks® ice cream.

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A flip-flop for all walks of life

Happy birthday Havaianas! 50 years later, the Brazilian accessory has become something of a social glue for country

The iconic flip-flops now rival uber-model Gisele Bundchen for the title of Brazil's most famous export. ANDRE PENNER / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brazil's well-heeled socialites swear by them. Legions of slum-dwellers from the country's hillside "favelas" don them almost every day. Minimum wage earners behind juice-bar counters use them, as do newly minted millionaires and, alarmingly, construction workers.

In Brazil, literally everyone wears Havaianas, the now world-famous brand of rubber and plastic flip-flops that's celebrating its 50th birthday this year.

Since their 1962 introduction, Havaianas have joined soccer and samba as one of the great social equalizers in this country, among the world's most stratified societies.

Initially the workaday staples of the Brazilian poor, Havaianas have transcended both their modest origins and the country's borders to become an object of desire the world over, sold at Bloomingdale's and Neiman Marcus and coveted by Hollywood A-listers, European royals and suburban princesses from Seattle to Seoul.

Not only have they become all but de rigeur in poolside Miami and beachfront Cancun, Havaianas now have a way of cropping up where you least expect them, from Paris' rarified haute couture catwalks to the red carpet at the Oscars.

And though the word "havaianas" mean Hawaiian in Portuguese, the flip-flops have come to be something of a symbol for Brazil itself.

"They're cool, colourful, laid back and chic," said Brazilian-born fashion consultant Abraao Ferreira. "They're the quintessence of everything that people find appealing about Brazil."

The numbers speak to that enduring popularity.

Last year, 210 million pairs of Havaianas were sold worldwide. Even with 15 per cent of total production exported to some 80 countries, enough of the sandals were sold in 2011 for nearly every man, woman and child in Brazil.

Still, patent or not, Havaianas has kept the formula behind its squishy rubber soles a tightly guarded secret. Since most of its direct competitors make cheaper, plastic-soled flip-flops, Havaianas' aerated rubber soles are seen as key to the brand's success and their manufacturing process is kept under strict wraps.

Beyond acknowledging they're made from a mixture of domestic and imported rubber that shrinks and hardens with extended wear, Porto declined to provide any details about the secret soles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fashion fable

Beginnings of a beach staple

Legend has it that Havaianas' simple wishbone between-the-toe design was inspired by Japanese "zori" sandals, the traditional straw-bottomed footwear worn by geishas.

"It's true that some executives from (parent company) Alpargatas took a trip to Japan before the launch," in 1962, said Rui Porto, a longtime company executive who now works as a media consultant for the brand. "But the origins of this style of sandal date back to the dawn of time, to roughly the same era as the invention of the wheel.

"In fact, that's why there's no patent on them," Porto said.

Rock the cool before the cold

Expo expertise. Before the season ends, try out these sizzling summer trends

MEREDITH ENGEL
life@metronews.ca

We asked Dana Lupton, who oversaw the 2012 International Beauty Show earlier this summer, for her input on some of the coolest beauty fads.

Hair chalk
The latest craze in temporary hair colour easily washes out, so it's perfect when you're looking for a no-fuss dramatic shift. Just rub it on and mist with hair spray. "That's definitely one of the new buzz things that's going on," says Lupton.
Individual Hair Color Chalk, $8, haircolorchalk.com

Natural hair care
"People are worrying about what they're putting in their hair," Lupton says. "We're seeing people becoming more green and selective about the types of things that they'll use, and companies are answering to that." One line we like is Yarok: a totally vegan, botanical collection free of alcohol, parabens, sulfates and cruelty.
Feed Your Ends leave-in conditioner, $23, .yarokhair.com

Nail appliques
Forget spending extra time at the salon while your manicurist paints on tiny flowers or polka dots: Stick-on designs are the way of the future. "It's all about the bells and whistles that people are used to," Lupton says. "Nail care is an explosive vertical market right now in the beauty world."
One celeb fan is Christina Aguilera, who was spotted wearing Dashing Diva's DesignFX on her digits this season on The Voice.

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TALK WITH YOUR HANDS

Neon brights, glitter, pastels, magnetic metallics, half-moons, patterns, ombré — creativity abounds when it comes to today's hottest nail finishes and manicure styles. Metro checked in with top Canadian nail artist Leeanne Colley, owner of Tips Nail Bar in Toronto, for her expert take on what your mani might say about you:

WACKY NAIL ART

Textured finishes, intricate designs, magnetic metallics and ombré nails tend to signify two things: You like to be different, and you work in a creative environment, says Colley. Or maybe you're a pop star — at the recent MuchMusic Video Awards, and then at the premiere of Katy Perry: Part of Me, singer Carly Rae Jepsen sported exuberant custom nail-art manicures by Colley.

Also increasing in popularity are press-on or strip-polish manicures, both of which come in solid-colour options as well as highly detailed or patterned. "It's amazing that women can jazz up their nails at home with strips, and without making a mess," says Melissa Forrest, a Canadian beauty expert for Sally Hansen.

Case in point: Sally Hansen Salon Effects Real Nail Polish Strips feature bold colours, patterns and metallics — just peel, apply, file, and go.

BRIGHT BOLD COLOUR

You have a fun, outgoing personality that translates to your nails, says Colley. "Bright colour is such a trend that almost everyone is wearing it now. Even career women are going to work in brights and neons."

There is no shortage of choice when it comes to colour. Sally Hansen Complete Salon Manicure Nail Polish comes in 42 brilliant shades, including Calypso Blue, Kook-A-Mango, and Right As Red.

To rock the bold colour trend, you just have to wear a solid shade, or a discreet form of nail art such as an empty moon or single-dot manicure.

Interestingly, Colley herself fits into this category, faithful to the solid-shade mani. "I love nail art and do it all day, but don't wear it myself. Really, I just get stuck on the colours I love."

PALE PINKS AND NUDES

While some people who continue to reach for soft, subtle shades are perhaps resistant to change, Colley says that often these choices are career-related. "You likely work in a very conservative, old-boys-network environment, and don't want to take the chance that your nails might undermine your authority."

Whatever your manicure style, "a lot of us really go on what gets noticed by other women," notes Colley. "I have clients who choose a shade on one visit, then at their next say, 'I don't want that colour again.' When I ask why, the answer is always, 'Because no one complimented me on it.'" – *Janine Falcon*

Magnetic
NAIL COLOR
3-D Nail Art in Seconds!
Sally Hansen #1 Nail Colour Brand in Canada Source: AC Nielsen, 52 weeks ending Feb. 11, 2012.

CUTE CUTICLES ARE KEY

"My No. 1 rule when it comes to keeping nails healthy is look after your cuticles," says Dana Caruso, global beauty expert for Sally Hansen. "They're the life and soul of your nails."

Keep cuticles in good shape with regular grooming, which Caruso says is best to do when cuticles are soft, flexible and less likely to tear. Soak fingers for five minutes in warm water, and apply cuticle remover before gently pushing them back with the rounded edge of a cuticle stick.

Finish by massaging in a moisturizing cuticle balm or oil. Sally Hansen Cuticle Eraser + Balm contains cucumber and green tea extracts known to moisturize, soothe and nourish dry, rough skin. Regular application of cuticle oil on the skin surrounding the nail bed, even when wearing polish, will help keep nails conditioned and flexible, too.

To maintain or enhance the overall thickness of your nails, use a conditioning nail hardener that protects and promotes growth, says Caruso.

Seal your manicure with a strong, quick-dry top coat, like Sally Hansen's Diamond Strength Diamond Flash Fast Dry Top Coat. A daily application will prolong the life of your polish.

RED-CARPET NAIL-ART TRENDS

At Chanel's recent couture show, model nails were painted pretty pink with a silver inverted moon. The look, similar to Ruffian's fall 2010 runway nails, is part of a two-toned trend that includes a coloured-moon mani and a reverse-French, in which a neutral nail is finished with a coloured tip.

Nails were big news at the fall 2012 shows; nail art has never, ever, been hotter.

Celebs are setting trends, too: Adele caused a sensation earlier this year with a glittery manicure complete with red undersides, inspired by her silver Louboutin stilettos. Zooey Deschanel delights fans via tweets of her quirky DIY manis. And on the red carpet for her new movie, Katy Perry showed off playful 3-D nail art.

You, too, can achieve a 3-D look at home with Sally Hansen's Magnetic Nail Colour. It is infused with metallic particles that move when exposed to the specially designed magnet to create a 3-D effect.

Multiple hues, intricate designs, textured finishes, glittery topcoats, magnetic metallics ... "These days, anything goes," says Melissa Forrest, a Canadian beauty expert for Sally Hansen.

HOT POLISH SHADES

More than makeup and hair, nails have become mini billboards with which to display personality. Hence the "anything goes" aspect of nail trends. To suss out the most popular seasonal shades, we turned to the pros.

"The hottest trend is nail art," confirms Dana Caruso, global beauty expert for Sally Hansen. "There are still seasonal colours — bright in the summer and dark, muted shades in the fall — but how you wear them is totally up to you."

Melissa Forrest, a Canadian beauty expert for Sally Hansen, takes a similar position. "All colours can work for every season, but in different tones or hues," she says. "For example, if you love a pastel lilac for summer, go two to five shades darker for fall."

Right now, wherever you look you will see brights splashes of pink, coral, blue and teal. Pastels, such as lilac, peach and mint green, are also on the scene. And every shade of neon — it's an '80s summer.

"For fall we're seeing nail colour palettes replicate runway makeup trends, with deep burgundy and metallics playing a big role," says Caruso. Darks, neutrals and nudes will also experience a bump in popularity, but not necessarily on their own.

"More and more women are getting comfortable wearing brighter shades on their nails, so we'll definitely see the trend continue," says Forrest. Neons are the exception — they are strictly summer — but she predicts combinations such as baby blue with a black moon, or vice versa, or nude nails with a rusty orange moon or silhouette detail. "Blues will be big, every shade of blue."

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STEP 2
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Ugg-believable! Brady backs brand

Footwear not just for females. Patriots quarterback talks about his love for man slippers and his questionable coiffe

MEREDITH ENGEL
Metro World News in New York

We didn't think men were into Ugg boots, but apparently they are — so much so that the California shoemaker just launched its first Ugg for Men store on New York City's Madison Avenue earlier this summer. The shop stocks footwear (with and without the trademark shearling), outerwear, accessories and a collection of leather items for dudes. On hand at last week's grand opening was the new face of Ugg for Men, Patriots quarterback (and self-proclaimed "slipper guy") Tom Brady, who sang to us his praises for manly Uggs.

We tend to think of Uggs as women's shoes. How did this collaboration come about?

I had the slippers for a long time, all through college. It's a California brand, (and since) I was a California kid, I had known something about it. When (the Ugg team) came to (Brady and his team) a few years ago and said, "This is what we're launching, do you guys wanna be a part of it?" we jumped right in. There's so many different products. It is a cool brand, and it's a lot of fun to be a part of something that's really grown as much as it has over the last few years.

Where do you wear your Uggs?

I wear them all the time: to stadiums, to work, I wear them out at night with friends — not the slippers, obviously, but there's quite a few other products that really go well at night. Especially at the football stadium: I've given away a lot of slippers over the years to teammates. When you walk in in the morning and half the team's wearing the slippers that you gave them, it's pretty cool.

Tom Brady GETTY IMAGES

Gotta ask you about your Met Gala hairdo — it got some mixed reactions. Whose idea was it?

It was kind of my idea. Honestly, I don't take it super seriously. I had a few friends who were really mad at me, like, "What are you doing?" (Laughs) I laugh it off. I had fun with it. It was a fun night. At some point you just have to say, "Whatever you're comfortable with doing, enjoy it."

Will you grow your hair long again?

I don't know, I like to keep changing it. It's fun. Guys can do that — it's a little easier for us than the girls.

Hip line headed North

Fashion breaks Free. Clothing company makes first appearance outside of U.S.

Canada will be home to the first Free People boutiques outside the U.S. as the brand broadens its reach into the international market.

The Philadelphia-based specialty women's clothing brand, part of Urban Outfitters, Inc., is set to open a tri-level, 1,500 square-foot (139 square-metre) store in Toronto's Yorkville shopping district on Aug. 3.

A second location is slated to launch at the Chinook Centre in Calgary on August 31.

The brand channels inspiration from bohemian chic in its vast array of apparel and accessories.

Free People's range includes dresses, tunics, sweaters, shorts, skirts, shoes and denim, as well its own in-house labels, vintage collections and a vegan leather shop.

As part of its northern expansion, Canadian e-customers will be offered the option of direct duty payment up front.

The retailer says this will enhance the overall shopping experience and remove any post-purchase charges.

The launch of Free People precedes the arrival of other chains slated to make their first forays into Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Free People HANDOUT

Fashion on the move

- **Brands.** Intermix, Marshalls, Express, Tory Burch, Topshop, Topman and J. Crew are among the U.S. and international brands that have recently established bricks-and-mortar locations in Canada.
- U.S. discount giant Target is set to opens its doors north of the border next year.

Celebrity style

The Body Shop and Lily Cole join forces

The Body Shop is offering more guilt-free beauty shopping this summer.

They've recently teamed up with model, actress and environmental activist Lily Cole to launch a special limited edition line of cruelty free make-up. Like all of The Body Shop's make-up, the line contains no animal products and is not tested on animals. METRO

Stars align for M·A·C Viva Glam Fashion Cares

M·A·C Viva Glam Fashion Cares Chairs Michael King and David Furnish have announced that Scissor Sisters, Janelle Monáe and Sky Ferreira will join Elton John to perform at Fashion Cares 25.

Taking place in Toronto at the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts on Sunday, September 9, 2012, the evening will be hosted by fashion icon Linda Evangelista and celebrated designers Dean & Dan Caten of DSQUARED2. METRO

SHOPPERS DRUG MART
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 38

A prescription for chocoholics

Cookbook authors Julie Albert and Lisa Gnat spend a lot of time in the kitchen creating and testing recipes, but they also like to be pampered by their families.

These Rx Brownies With Fudge Frosting are great for when you want to sit back and get the little ones involved.

The decadent brownies, found in Bite Me, are a prescription for any chocoholic, say Albert and Gnat. They would make an ideal treat to cap a brunch or any time you need a chocolate fix.

1. Heat oven to 180 C (350 F). Coat a 33-by-23-cm (13-by-9-inch) baking pan with non-stick cooking spray. Line with parchment paper.

2. For the brownies, in a microwave safe bowl, combine chocolate and butter. Melt on high heat for 1 minute, stir and melt for 30 seconds more or until chocolate and butter are melted and smooth.

3. In a large bowl, whisk sugar and eggs. Add chocolate mixture and flour, stirring until flour has disappeared. Spread in prepared pan and bake for 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool in pan for 15 minutes before removing. Cool completely on wire rack before frosting.

4. Frosting: In a large saucepan, mix together sugar, cocoa powder, milk, butter and corn syrup. Heat to boiling, stirring frequently. Boil for 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Let cool for 10 minutes. Whisk in icing sugar until smooth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/BITE ME TOO BY JULIE ALBERT AND LISA GNAT

Ingredients

- 4 squares unsweetened chocolate, chopped
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) butter
- 500 ml (2 cups) sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 250 ml (1 cup) flour

Fudge Frosting

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sugar
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) cocoa powder, sifted
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) milk
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) butter
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) corn syrup
- 250 ml (1 cup) icing sugar

Rx Brownies With Fudge Frosting

This recipe is ideal for a post-brunch dessert. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Book of the week

Take a bite out of easy & fun food

Having fun with food, family and friends is the focus of the cookbook Bite Me Too by sisters Julie Albert and Lisa Gnat.

The release is peppered with humour, trivia, pop culture references and user-friendly recipes that feature ingredients you have in your pantry or that can be picked up during your regular grocery store run.

Chapter headings in Bite Me Too include Amuse Me (appetizers), Fowl Me (poultry), Hook Me (fish and seafood) and Toss Me (salads). There are 176 recipes in total. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Spiced And Grilled Angel Food Cake. Contrast with ice cream top

If strawberries aren't your thing, any fresh fruit would be delicious, including mango, kiwis, blueberries and raspberries. Or just top with fruit salad.

1. In bowl, combine strawberries and 2 tablespoons of sugar.

2. In bowl, use electric mixer to whip heavy cream until soft peaks form. Sprinkle in 2 tablespoons of sugar and the lemon zest (reserve lemon juice). Continue beating until stiff peaks form. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

3. Heat grill to medium-high.

4. In saucepan over medium heat, combine butter, lemon juice, cinnamon, cardamom and the remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar. Heat, stirring, until butter melted and sugar has dissolved. Use pastry brush to coat all sides of cake slices with butter mix.

5. Place cake slices on grill and cook 30 seconds per side or until grill marks appear and cakes are toasted. Serve each slice topped with whipped cream and berries.

Ingredients

- 1 quart strawberries, hulled and sliced
- 6 tbsp sugar, divided
- 1 cup heavy cream
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 4 tbsp butter
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp ground cardamom
- 13-oz angel food cake, cut into 8 slices

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Old-world charm at Old Mill

Riverhouse at the Old Mill. SUBMITTED

Meet the condo

- **What.** Riverhouse at the Old Mill
- **Builder.** Lanterra Developments
- **Location.** 30 Old Mill Road
- **Website.** riverhousecondos.ca
- **Pricing.** From $502,900 to $1.7 million

The project overview

On the banks of the Humber River, Lanterra's new Riverhouse at the Old Mill offers old-world charm. The exterior will incorporate brick, precast stone and glass architectural details, while the lobby is a delicate balance of natural wood, soaring columns and dramatic stone floor.

Location and transit

Steps from the Old Mill subway station, the downtown core is a 15-minute ride away. For drivers, the nearby South Kingsway gets you quickly to the Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Blvd.

In the neighborhood

Riverhouse is a stone's throw from trendy Bloor West Village with its selection of European food shops and specialty stores. The Kingsway and Runnymede movie theatres are nearby, as are lush parklands with kilometres of walking trails.

Building amenities

Featuring an indoor pool and hot tub surrounded by a large outdoor terrace, a steam room, fully equipped exercise room, and a party room with caterer's kitchen opening onto the library lounge with views of the Humber. It will also offer 24-hour concierge service.

DUNCAN MCALLISTER/METRO

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Rooftop surfing

GTA new home sales remain stable

BRYAN TUCKEY
President and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) can be found at twitter.com/bildgta), (facebook.com/bildgta), and bildblogs.ca.

It seems like only yesterday the Year of the Condo headlines graced the covers of glossy magazines and daily newspapers — an interesting time indeed, with some claiming the boom would continue for years to come while others predicted a quick fall.

But so far the numbers for 2012 point to an average year when it comes to new home sales.

Various reports have shown that the housing market in the GTA has, so far, fallen back in line with the long-term average calculated over the past 10 years.

With 3,461 new homes and condominiums sold this June, the market has returned to a more average pace. In fact, a quick look back shows that in June 2010, a total of 3,063 new homes were sold, while June 2009 sales totalled to 3,782.

What has changed, however, is the split between low and high-rise projects, with sales still leaning heavily in the condo's favour. As of the end of June, condominium sales were 38 per cent above the long-term average.

This year's high-rise market currently ranks second only to 2011, while its low-rise counterpart has slipped to 27 per cent below average as a result of reduced land supply and an emphasis on intensification by the province.

While it may lack controversy and excitement, the stability of the GTA's housing market has kept our economy in check, contributed to our growing job market and fueled the growth of new and existing communities.

Six months into 2012, our members sold a total of 20,785 new homes for GTA residents — just over half the minimum amount needed to accommodate the 40,000 new households formed each year.

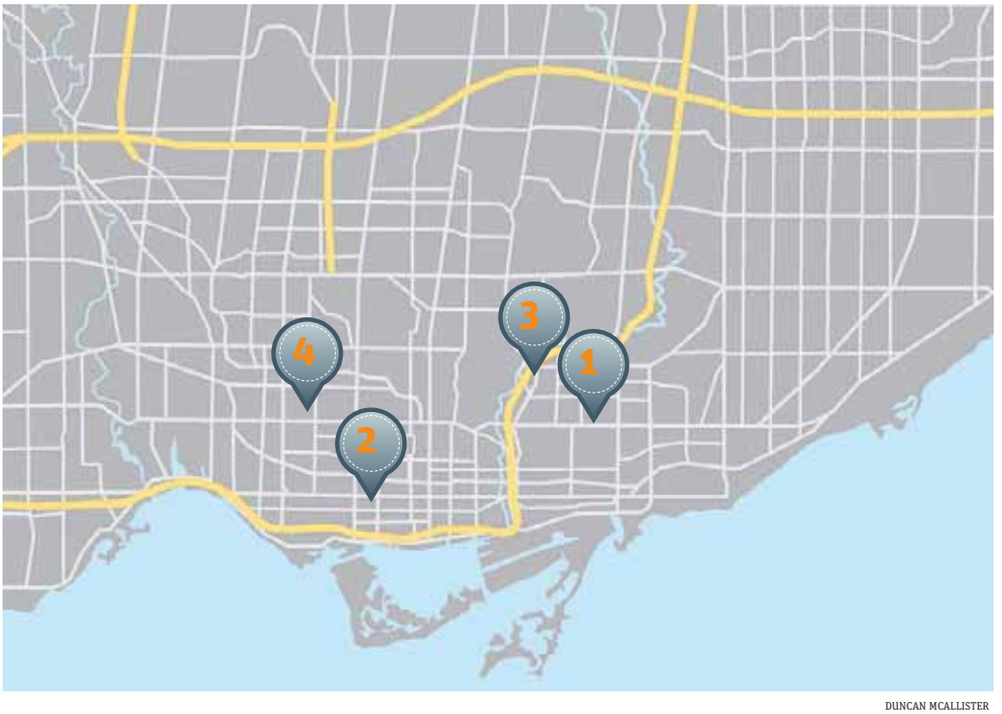
And with a shortage of new construction in the rental market, condos are picking up the slack, with investors finding tenants who would rather live in new, amenity-rich condominiums over older apartment complexes.

In numbers

38%

As of the end of June, condo sales were 38 per cent above the long-term average

What's hot on the condo market?



DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1. The Carlaw

Street style pop-up

"Street Style" pop-up shop with massive discounts on designer furniture. Head to 345 Carlaw Ave., July 28 and 29 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visit thecarlaw.com

2. Richmond St. condo

Downtown living

Open house: two beds, two baths. Check it out at 388 Richmond St. W., July 28 and 29, 2 to 4 p.m. Call 416-489-2121

3. Danforth condo

Look to the Skyy

Open house: 1,911 sq. ft. corner unit, two + one beds, two baths, at Minto Skyy, 1048 Broadview Ave., July 28, 2 to 4 p.m. Call 416-489-2121

4. West40 church lofts

Lofty aspirations

West40 church conversion loft: Don't miss this unique open house at 40 Westmoreland Ave., July 28 and 29 from 2 to 4 p.m. Call 905-415-2710

Indigo is everywhere in fall collections, and home decor is no exception. A pop of true-blue in anything from your coffee maker to your comforter to your floor coverings will add a richness and depth to any room in your home, for a look that is truly modern and sophisticated.

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

1

Nespresso Pixi C60

The smartest and smallest of all the Nespresso machines; travels well. $200, TheBay.com

2

Found Decanter Lamp with linen shade

Boho chic glass jugs glow with the addition of light. $498, Anthropologie.com

3

1951 Barstool

1950's Navy hospital chairs get reproduced for vintage chic. $465, DWR.com.

4

Pulse Blue Drinkware

Textured dots add a modern grip. $32 for four, BedBathAndBeyond.com

8 Accessories in fall's coolest colour — indigo

5

It's All Mine Now

48x60 reproduction painting by Karl Lohnes. Who else would you rather have tea with? $329, CB2.com

6

Avalon 3-piece Comforter Set

A modern take on a traditional pattern. $130/queen, sears.ca

Marimekko Siirtolapuutarha 18-inch Tray

Use it to serve drinks or hang it on the wall. $105, CrateAndBarrel.ca

7

Batik Bird Rug

Lay or hang it for a hand-blocked art look. 5x7, $89, UrbanOutfitter.com

8

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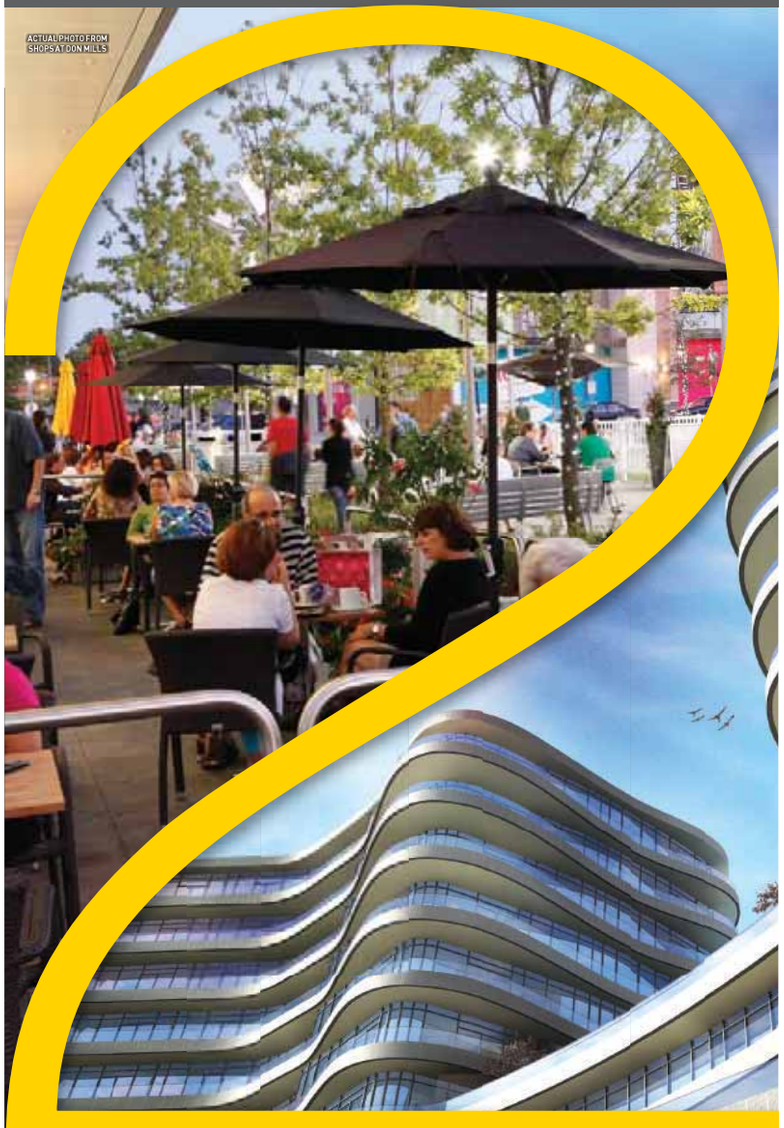

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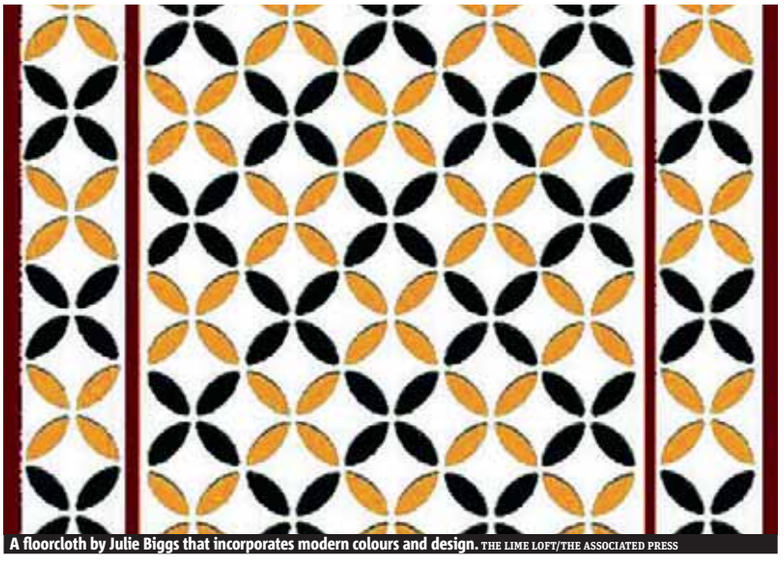
A "Mariner's Compass" floorcloth made by Lisa Mair. CANVASWORKS FLOORCLOTHS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A "Basic Checks" floorcloth created by Lisa Mair in her 200-year-old Vermont farmhouse. CANVASWORKS FLOORCLOTHS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A floorcloth by Julie Biggs that incorporates modern colours and design. THE LIME LOFT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

17th Century decor revival

Trends. Thomas Jefferson, George Washington and George Adams had floorcloths in their homes and you can too

If you were the artistic wife of a sailor back in 17th Century France, you didn't let modest means deter you from decorating your home in style.

You transformed your husband's old sails into beautifully painted floor coverings that rivaled those in wealthy homes. British sailors started bringing them back as souvenirs, and a fad with impressive reach and longevity was born.

The heavy canvases — called oilcloths in Britain and floorcloths when the art came to North America — were painted with simple or elaborate designs depending on the skill level of the artists (often house painters) and the financial status of homeowners. The term oilcloth probably refers to the oil-based paints and linseed oil coatings applied to the canvases.

Waterproof, insect resistant and sturdy, floorcloths became just as popular in American homes. Thomas Jefferson, George Washington and John Adams had floorcloths in their homes; you can still see one at Mount Vernon — a solid green, as Washington sought to simulate the grass outdoors inside.

Near the start of the 20th Century, the advent of mass-produced linoleum sent labour-intensive floorcloths out of style, but in the '60s and again more recently, artists have rediscovered the craft.

Julie Biggs of Pickerington, Ohio, paints hers with contemporary designs like polka dots or naif flowers in hues of pink, turquoise, yellow and charcoal grey. A green polka dot rug would look fresh and young in a child's room, for example. She's playing with other ideas, too.

"My favourite technique right now is a layered, worn look, which includes several layers of designs on one floorcloth," Biggs says. "Once I'm finished painting each layer, I sand off some of the top to let the sub-layers peek through. It gives the floorcloth a warm, loved look that's very charming. Recently, I've been inspired by the colours and designs of modern fabrics and quilts."

Weathersfield, Vt.-based Lisa Curry Mair crafts her rugs in a 200-year-old farmhouse adorned with many of her creations. She brings a love of history, children's book illustrations and mathematics to her designs.

A mariner's compass, an artichoke and a woven, cane-like pattern are among her bestsellers, and she also does custom designs. The hardest thing to get across, she says, is how durable the pieces are, and that's largely due to the number of "hobby" crafters producing inferior product.

"They use lightweight canvas, cheap paint and finishes. A floorcloth in a high-traffic kitchen should stand up to dogs, kids and all kinds of abuse," Mair says.

A good heavy floorcloth should lie flat with no bumps or ripples, she says. "When I make floorcloths for museums, they must stand up to 30,000 visitors a year walking on them."

Lucia Blum of Wilmington, N.C., gives rugs a folk-art look. Cat Nap features a black and white cat surrounded by the stuff of cat dreams: goldfish, birds and mice. Bunny romps on a green field circled by carrots and radishes.

Artist Faith Wilson, who will be showing at the American Craft Exposition in Evanston, Ill., in August, takes a painterly approach to her often haunting, evocative canvases. Gingko leaves, conifers and little black birds inhabit softly hued, sepia-washed backgrounds.

If you're interested in trying your hand at the floorcloth craft yourself, HGTV's website offers instructions. Mair's website has a how-to video plus a supplies shop.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"A floorcloth in a high-traffic kitchen should stand up to dogs, kids and all kinds of abuse."

Lisa Curry Mair, contemporary floorcloth crafter

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Keep cool while looking cool

DIY ideas. Cooling units are summer lifesavers, but they're also an eyesore. Make your own cover using these tips

The summer heat has likely got your air conditioning unit operating at full tilt. Although you may be enjoying the cooling effect it's bringing to the inside of your home, you may not appreciate the eyesore it's created on the outside.

Jason Cameron transforms troubled yards on DIY Network's Desperate Landscapes. Read on to learn Jason's approach to concealing an outdoor air conditioning unit and never worry what your neighbours are thinking about your yard again.

Gather materials

A decorative lattice screen provides the ultimate disguise for outdoor air conditioning units.

To get started, gather the necessary materials, such as cedar planks (recommended for their weather resistance), four pressure-treated 4-x-4 posts, wood stakes, braces, landscaping fabric, granite, architectural-grade lattice, cement, a saw, hand tamper, staple gun, shovel and screws.

Set the base

Ensure the area being screened is level. Hammer in stakes to mark the perimeter and place the cedar planks against the stakes to mark a simple frame.

Remember to factor in sufficient clearance to allow for proper airflow and servicing; a good rule of thumb is to clear an area double the size of the air conditioner you wish to hide.

Secure landscaping fabric inside the frame to prevent weeds from growing. Pour granite overtop until it is about two inches thick and rake until level. Wet the surface to set the granite and then pack it down with a hand tamper.

Build the frame

Cut the corner posts to the desired height with a sharp handsaw. Dig holes for the posts, about two feet deep, to allow enough room for the concrete. Set the posts in the holes and secure temporarily with braces.

Once the posts are level, pour cement into the holes. Let the concrete set overnight before removing the braces. Measure between each set of posts and cut the cedar planks to fit between them to form a bottom rail. Slide the rails into place and screw them to the posts. Cap the top of the posts with a top rail; cut each end of the top rail at a 45-degree angle and secure with screws.

Install the lattice

Cut the lattice with a circular saw so it fits between the posts and top and bottom rails. Use a staple gun to attach the lattice to hold it in place. Planting shrubs around the screen will help to further soften the look.

DESPERATE LANDSCAPES AIRS WEEKNIGHTS AT 7:30 P.M. ET/4:30 P.M. PT ON DIY NETWORK CANADA

Outdoor air conditioning units aren't the most attractive, so why not cover them with a decorative lattice? ISTOCK

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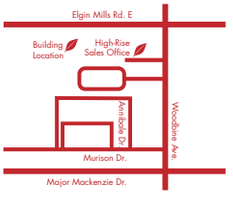

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Monarch

Mortgages

Are you truly free of your mortgage?

My wife and I worked hard for many years and whittled away at our mortgage so that eventually it was all paid off. We have been mortgage-free for several years and have now decided to sell our family home and downsize, since we are empty nesters.

We found a downtown condo, sold our house and are now waiting for the closings to happen. We received a phone call from our lawyer who indicated that there was still a mortgage on title. How can this be when we paid it off years ago?

LEGAL MATTERS
Jeffrey Cowan
home@metronews.ca

There is a difference between paying off your mortgage and actually having the paperwork processed to discharge it from your home's title.

This is a fairly frequent problem because once you have paid off your debt, you think that naturally the paperwork should follow. But be aware that some financial institutions process the discharge while others leave that responsibility to the owners.

You should check with your bank when you make your final payment that they will be processing the discharge on title and providing you with proof that they have done so.

Paying out your mortgage and physically discharging the mortgage are two separate and equally important steps to making you and your home mortgage-free.

Urban sprawl and animal encounters: What not to do

Hazing can help maintain coyotes' fear of humans. ISTOCK

What should I do if I run into a coyote in my neighbourhood?
-Scott of Vancouver

QUEEN OF GREEN
Lindsay Coulter
green@metronews.ca

Don't do what I've done and try to get closer for a better look or a picture! (Because it was nonchalant and unafraid, a few times I thought a coyote was a dog off-leash.)

Typically not a threat to humans, coyotes can become more aggressive as they get comfortable around people. And although city life isn't for everyone, more and more, urban coyotes find it suits them just fine.

The boundary between urban and rural gets blurry with every new sprawling development, as human communities creep closer to the habitats of our wild neighbours. Coyotes are one of those species — like pigeons, magpies, crows and racoons — that can tolerate living with us. This can lead to conflict between them, people and pets.

Learn how to haze a coyote. Hazing can help maintain coyotes' fear of humans and deter them from our backyards (which I suspect would significantly reduce the number of missing cat posters in my neighbourhood). The simplest way is to get loud and large! Stand tall, wave your arms and yell.

Keep your family and pets safe. Never feed coyotes. You're just putting the animal, yourself and your neighbours at risk. Prevent unwanted encounters by keeping pet food inside and your garbage bins tidy.

Studies show that urban coyotes actually have longer life expectancies than their rural cousins, so chances are they're here to stay.

Find out if a naturalist group or wildlife rehabilitation centre in your city offers urban coyote education programs. Vancouver's Stanley Park Ecology Society's Coexisting with Coyotes program maintains a coyote hotline (604-681-WILD) to report sightings and it maintains a map of recent reports.

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Richard Bowden, director of sales for Bay Bloor Radio, demonstrates a condo home entertainment system.

DUNCAN MCALLISTER/METRO

Must-have tech toys for your condo

Small in size, large in style. Metro talks to Richard Bowden about the perfect accessories for small spaces

DUNCAN MCALLISTER
life@metronews.ca

Now that you have your new space fully decked out, you'll want to add the perfect high-tech accessories.

Richard Bowden, director of sales for Bay Bloor Radio, took Metro on a tour of home entertainment components designed for the condo — from a super-thin Panasonic LED television that looks like a picture frame to a Bose condo surround system with wireless subwoofer, iPod docking station and universal remote.

For the ultimate in condo digital sound, there's the British-engineered Naim system that looks much like a conventional stereo. "This is a condo system beyond belief. This is the best $8,000 you'll ever spend in a small space," says Bowden.

With newer systems, there's no need for a separate computer. They handle Internet streaming, digital to analog conversion and wireless connections, all in one box. Your media files can reside on any storage device located anywhere on your wireless network.

Condo owners have limited choices when it comes to home entertainment wiring, due to concrete construction and other considerations. If you have multiple rooms, the Sonos wireless control system is an obvious solution.

"Say I want to put music in maybe two to three rooms of a condo, this is perfect because this is wireless streaming," says Bowden. "This is the company that has figured out how to do multi-room without wires. It controls music off the Internet, controls music off the computer."

You can mix-and-match components for up to 18 rooms and use your iPod or iPhone as the remote control.

3D flat panel televisions are now all the rage, as prices have started to plummet. Low-end models are now priced between $1,700 and $2,000. You will need to purchase a Blu-ray player and at least one pair of 3D LCD shutter glasses at about $100 each.

Sony's 55" Bravia HX929 is full HD 1080p in 2D and 3D, with a monolithic design, Corning gorilla glass and Internet TV for streaming entertainment.

And here's the ultimate Internet router for your entertainment system: With lots of bandwidth and connection options, the D-Link HD Fuel is a dual-band wireless router with up to 600 Mbps.

You can build a wireless condo network capable of delivering the bandwidth to handle HD video streams, large media file downloads and online gaming to multiple devices.

SharePort Plus lets you connect or stream from any USB device. And with four gigabit Ethernet ports, there's plenty of room for your computers, Blu-ray player, PlayStation and more. There's even an SD card slot for accessing HD photos and videos.

1 **Bravia 55" HX929 Series 3D HDTV**
$3,599 at The Sony Store

2 **Naim UnitiQute**
$2,695 from Bay Bloor Radio

3 **D-Link DIR-827 HD Media Router 2000**
$120 at Canada Computers and Electronics

4 **Sonos ZonePlayer 120**
$599 from Bay Bloor Radio

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NHL

Bettman lays out league's proposal

Donald Fehr and the NHL players have a little more to mull over.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said the league tabled the remaining elements of its opening contract offer to the NHL Players' Association on Wednesday. It was an expansion on the opening proposal the league delivered July 13, which included a decreased share of hockey-related revenue, term limits on contracts and a 22 per cent salary rollback.

"We left some open issues that we have to get back to but the overwhelming scope of our proposals are on the table," Bettman said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gary Bettman GETTY IMAGES FILE

MLB

Arencibia breaks hand, expected to miss six weeks

Toronto Blue Jays catcher JP Arencibia is expected to miss about six weeks after fracturing his right hand in the second inning of Wednesday's game against the Oakland A's.

Arencibia appeared to injure the hand on a foul ball by Brandon Inge during Oakland's eight-run inning.

The 26-year-old finished the inning behind the plate but Jeff Mathis batted for him in the bottom of the second.

Arencibia is batting .242 with 16 homers and 50 RBIs so far this season.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ernie Els speaks at a press conference next to the Claret Jug trophy Wednesday at the Hamilton Golf and County Club in Ancaster, Ont. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Els hopes to add to his trophy haul

Golf. British Open winner has had little time to practise ahead of Canadian Open

Ernie Els arrived at the RBC Canadian Open with one trophy already in tow. He's hoping to leave with another.

Despite a whirlwind couple days that followed his victory at the British Open, Els expressed confidence that he's still got enough left in the tank to be competitive at the third-oldest championship in golf.

"I feel very fresh," he said Wednesday afternoon.

Els only managed to get in five practice holes at Hamilton Golf and Country Club this week, but thinks his stellar play from Royal Lytham and St. Annes should carry over.

The celebration following his fourth major championship was more low key than the ones that came before it. After pulling out a one-shot victory over Adam Scott on Sunday, he returned home to London, England for a small party with family and friends, then had a lazy Monday.

He travelled to Hamilton, Ont., on Tuesday morning, getting in a quick practice session before a helicopter arrived to whisk him to downtown Toronto for a "Right to Play" dinner. On Wednesday, Els played a round with RBC CEO Gord Nixon at his home course.

The itinerary left virtually no time for preparation at the charming, tree-lined Hamilton layout that is hosting the Canadian Open for a fifth time.

"I don't know if it's such a big disadvantage because a lot of times when you don't play a course, you don't know where the trouble is," Els said with a chuckle. "So maybe that's a good thing. You get your yardage, you hit it to your spots."

As an added bonus, the South African brought the Claret Jug along for the ride and proudly displayed it during his interview session with reporters Wednesday. His presence added some buzz to an event that remains in a tough spot on the PGA Tour's calendar.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taking part

- Besides Els, the biggest names in the field are Matt Kuchar, Hunter Mahan and Jim Furyk — and it's no coincidence that all four have sponsorship agreements with RBC.
- But Furyk said he was also drawn back by the traditional H.S. Colt-designed course where he won the first of his two Canadian Open titles in 2006.

4 SPORTS

Mobile sports

A day after matching the Philadelphia Flyers' $110-million US offer sheet for Shea Weber, the Nashville Predators were in celebration mode. But "the biggest signing in franchise history" for Nashville has forced the Flyers back to the drawing board. Scan the code for the story.

Despatie facing biggest Olympic challenge yet

Diving. But 27-year-old from Laval, Que., envisions 'better-than-ever' results despite recent head injury

Alexandre Despatie has never been the type to shy way from challenges. And more often than not, he's overcome them.

But on the eve of his fourth Olympics, the veteran diver admits the London Games will be the biggest challenge of his career.

Despatie, 27, is coming off a tough year. He missed most of 2011 because of bursitis and tendinitis in his left knee.

And last month, he had a brush with disaster when he hit his head on the board while training in Spain.

Quoted

"Being injured is one thing, hurting is another.... When the head isn't there properly, it's difficult to turn the page and get back to positive thoughts."

Alexandre Despatie

The deep cut on the forehead as well as the concussion he suffered nearly derailed his latest Olympic dreams.

As a result, Despatie will have to surpass himself if he is to add to his Olympic medal total.

"I have a big challenge in front of me but I'm going to the Games to do better than ever," he told The Canadian Press. "And that's what the Olympics are all about — the desire to surpass oneself. I usually overcome challenges and that's what I'm going to do."

The three-time world champion and two-time Olympic medal-winner knows what he is talking about.

Four months before the Beijing Games in 2008, Despatie fractured his foot in an injury that prevented him from training in the run-up to the Olympics. Then, once in China, he suffered back pains that had him fearing the worst.

In the end, however, he still won silver in the three-metre dive.

"Mentally, it was super difficult," he said. "Healing physically isn't enough. You've got to get your confidence back."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada can't keep up with world champion in opener

Soccer. Coach Herdman calls loss to Japan a learning experience

Canada's women's soccer team opened its London Olympic campaign with a 2-1 loss to Japan on Wednesday, a result that left coach John Herdman "scratching one side" of his head and "feeling OK on the other."

Melissa Tancredi scored the lone goal for the No. 7 Canadians, who managed to battle back against the reigning World Cup champion. Japan took a 2-0 lead into halftime and had the Canadians on their heels most of the night.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game tonight; they're world champions and world champions for a reason," Herdman said afterward.

"But it's the first game in the tournament, there's another five to go for us hopefully, and I think we've learned some lessons tonight."

The game marked Canada's first competition of the Games, two days before the opening ceremonies in London.

The Canadians need to finish top-two in their pool — or be one of the two best third-place teams — to advance to the quarter-finals of the 12-team tournament.

The Japanese squad that shocked the United States to win the World Cup last summer lived up to its billing, passing and moving with speed and precision.

"They're quick, they're crafty, they get in those tight little spaces that you don't think they can get into," said defender Lauren Sesselmann. "They're an incredible team."

Nahomi Kawasumi and team captain Aya Miyama scored for Japan.

Kawasumi sprinted onto a clever back-heel pass from Shinobu Ohno in the 33rd minute. Miyama scored on a header from a cross in the 44th minute to beat Canadian goalkeeper Erin McLeod.

Tancredi capitalized on the one really decent shot Canada had, connecting on a cross from Rhian Wilkinson in the 55th minute.

"At 2-0 down anything could have happened, we could easily have let the game go," said Canada's star striker Christine Sinclair. "But I think in the second half we came out and played pretty well. Gives us some confidence and in terms of goal difference, not a bad result against them."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Christine Sinclair, left, and Japan's Azusa Iwashimizu battle for the ball in Coventry on Wednesday. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hesjedal's 'one-man show' arrives in London

Canadian cyclist Ryder Hesjedal arrives at St. Pancras King's Cross train station in London on Wednesday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ryder Hesjedal arrived at the Olympics to a crowd Wednesday. But the Giro d'Italia winner will largely be on his own Saturday in the men's road race.

While world champion Mark Cavendish can rely on the help of four British teammates, the 31-year-old from Victoria will be going it alone as Canada did not collect enough points to qualify any other riders.

But the focus was on Hesjedal on Wednesday as he walked into a Canadian media crush at St. Pancras International after getting off a train from Europe.

Quoted

"They've clearly shown how strong they are. They're going to take the initiative, they're going to control the race. So it will be everyone against them."

Ryder Hesjedal on the British cycling team led by Mark Cavendish and Tour de France winner Bradley Wiggins

The six-foot-two, 159-pound Hesjedal arrived wheeling one of his own Cervelo bikes, neatly packaged in a giant canvas bag. His other rides had been shipped ahead of time.

The laid-back Hesjedal, under the spotlight at his third Olympics, did his best to take all the attention in stride.

"It's exciting. This is a little overwhelming," said the former mountain biker. "But I've been training and focusing on this event. We'll see how I do Saturday and following in the time trial."

Hesjedal had fellow Canadians Michael Barry and Svein Tuft on his side at the 2008 Games road race in Beijing, where Barry was eighth, Hesjedal 55th and Tuft 58th. But he will have to look to others to help him this time.

This time he is, in his words, "a one-man show." A good scenario for him is being part of a small group that breaks away from the field early.

"I can ride with a small group and there won't be many guys with teammates at that point," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Doping

Nine banned as Games approach

Nine track athletes were suspended ahead of the London Olympics for doping, including three who were caught in retests of samples from last year's world championships, the IAAF said Wednesday.

The governing body said six were caught in biological passport tests, which measure changes in an athlete's blood profile. The others were sanctioned after retroactive testing of blood and urine samples from the worlds in Daegu, South Korea.

Eight of the athletes received two-year suspensions, while one was handed a four-year ban.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer

Morgan stars for U.S. in comeback win over France

Alex Morgan scored twice as the U.S. women's soccer team rallied from an early 2-0 deficit Wednesday to open its Olympics with a 4-2 win over France.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Megan Rapinoe jumps into Alex Morgan's arms on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis

Federer, Azarenka named top seeds

The International Tennis Federation named Roger Federer and Victoria Azarenka the No. 1-seeded Olympic singles players. The ITF says it awarded the seedings based on the ATP and WTA rankings of July 23. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Swimming

"We're a lot more laid back this time around, not only myself but as a team."

Fourteen-time gold medallist Michael Phelps on the U.S. swim team's outlook ahead of Olympic competition

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	59	39	.602	—
Baltimore	51	46	.526	7½
Tampa Bay	50	47	.515	8½
Boston	49	49	.500	10
Toronto	48	48	.500	10

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	53	45	.541	—
Detroit	52	45	.536	½
Cleveland	49	48	.505	3½
Kansas City	41	56	.423	11½
Minnesota	40	58	.408	13

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	57	39	.594	—
Los Angeles	54	45	.545	4½
Oakland	52	44	.542	5
Seattle	43	57	.430	16

Wednesday's results
Chicago White Sox 8, Minnesota 2
L.A. Angels 11, Kansas City 6
N.Y. Yankees 5, Seattle 2
Detroit at Cleveland, 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Oakland at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Boston at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Tuesday's results
Cleveland 3, Detroit 2
Tampa Bay 3, Baltimore 1
Oakland 7, Toronto 2
Boston 2, Texas 1
Chicago White Sox 11, Minnesota 4
Kansas City 4, L.A. Angels 1
Seattle 4, N.Y. Yankees 2
Thursday's games
All times Eastern
Tampa Bay (Shields 8-6) at Baltimore (Tillman 2-1), 12:35 p.m.
Oakland (Milone 9-6) at Toronto (Laffey 2-1), 12:37 p.m.
Detroit (Verlander 11-5) at Cleveland (McAllister 4-2), 7:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Mendoza 4-6) at Seattle (Vargas 10-7), 10:10 p.m.
Friday's games
Boston at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Oakland at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at L.A. Angels, 10:05 p.m.
Kansas City at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	58	39	.598	—
Atlanta	54	44	.551	4½
New York	47	51	.480	11½
Miami	45	53	.459	13½
Philadelphia	45	54	.455	14

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	57	40	.588	—
Pittsburgh	55	42	.567	2
St. Louis	51	46	.526	6
Milwaukee	44	53	.454	13
Chicago	40	57	.412	17
Houston	34	64	.347	23½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	55	43	.561	—
Los Angeles	53	45	.541	2
Arizona	49	48	.505	5½
San Diego	42	58	.420	14
Colorado	36	60	.375	18

Wednesday's results
Washington 5, N.Y. Mets 2
Pittsburgh 3, Chicago Cubs 2
Atlanta 7, Miami 1
Philadelphia 7, Milwaukee 6, 10 innings
San Diego 6, San Francisco 3
Cincinnati at Houston
L.A. Dodgers at St. Louis
Colorado at Arizona
Tuesday's results
Chicago Cubs 5, Pittsburgh 1
Philadelphia 7, Milwaukee 6
Atlanta 4, Miami 3
Washington 5, N.Y. Mets 2
Cincinnati 4, Houston 2
St. Louis 8, L.A. Dodgers 2
Arizona 6, Colorado 2
San Francisco 3, San Diego 2
Thursday's games
All times Eastern
L.A. Dodgers (Capuano 10-5) at St. Louis (Westbrook 8-8), 1:45 p.m.
Pittsburgh (A.J.Burnett 11-3) at Houston (Keuchel 1-2), 8:05 p.m.
Washington (E.Jackson 5-6) at Milwaukee (Gallardo 8-7), 8:10 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Harvey 0-0) at Arizona (Miley 11-5), 9:40 p.m.
Friday's games
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.
San Diego at Miami, 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Houston, 8:05 p.m.
Washington at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
Cincinnati at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

TUESDAY

ATHLETICS 7, BLUE JAYS 2

Oakland	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Crisp cf	5	1	1	1	0	2	.247
J.Gomes dh	4	1	1	0	1	2	.256
Reddick rf	3	1	1	0	1	0	.272\
Cespedes lf	4	0	1	3	0	3	.298
Carter 1b	3	0	0	0	1	1	.275
Inge 3b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.201
D.Norris c	4	1	1	2	0	0	.188
Hicks ss	3	1	1	0	1	2	.171
J.Weeks 2b	4	1	2	1	0	0	.219
Totals	**34**	**7**	**9**	**7**	**4**	**11**	
Toronto	**AB**	**R**	**H**	**BI**	**BB**	**SO**	**Avg.**
Lawrie 3b	4	0	3	0	0	0	.285
Rasmus cf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.244
Encarnacion 1b	3	0	0	0	1	2	.295
Lind dh	4	0	0	0	0	1	.232
Arencibia c	4	1	2	1	0	2	.242
K.Johnson 2b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.239
Y.Escobar ss	4	0	1	0	0	0	.255
Snider lf	4	1	1	1	0	2	.333
R.Davis rf	3	0	0	0	0	1	.255

Totals	**33**	**2**	**8**	**2**	**1**	**11**			
Oakland	**020**	**000**	**500**			**—7**	**9**	**0**	
Toronto	**001**	**000**	**001**			**—2**	**8**	**0**	

LOB—Oakland 4, Toronto 6. 2B—Crisp (6), Hicks (4), Lawrie (18), Arencibia (15). 3B—J.Weeks (6). HR—D.Norris (3), off Cecil; Snider (2), off Blackley; Arencibia (16), off J.Miller. RBIs—Crisp (20), Cespedes 3 (48), D.Norris 2 (9), J.Weeks (15), Arencibia (50), Snider (4). SB—Crisp (20), J.Gomes (3).
Runners left in scoring position—Toronto 3 (Y.Escobar, Lind, Encarnacion). RISP—Oakland 3 for 3; Toronto 0 for 6.
GIDP—Crisp, Reddick, Y.Escobar.

Oakland	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Blackley W, 3-2	7	5	1	1	1	8	97	2.69
Scribner	1	1	0	0	0	2	15	0.00
J.Miller	1	2	1	1	0	1	24	2.30
Toronto	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**	**NP**	**ERA**
Cecil L, 2-3	6	5	2	2	2	8	94	5.82
Beck	⅓	2	2	2	0	1	17	5.14
Happ	2⅓	2	3	3	2	2	49	9.00

Inherited runners-scored—Happ 1-1. HBP—by Blackley (Rasmus). WP—Blackley 2.
T—3:00. A—25,686 (49,260).

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
New York	21	11	5	5	37	29	38
Kansas City	21	11	6	4	26	19	37
Houston	21	9	5	7	31	25	34
D.C.	20	10	7	3	34	27	33
Chicago	20	9	7	4	22	22	31
Columbus	18	7	7	4	18	19	25
Montreal	23	7	13	3	30	42	24
New England	20	6	9	5	25	25	23
Philadelphia	18	6	10	2	20	21	20
Toronto	20	5	11	4	24	36	19

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	22	13	5	4	44	27	43
Real Salt Lake	22	12	7	3	33	26	39
Vancouver	22	9	6	7	25	26	34
Seattle	20	8	5	7	25	21	31
Los Angeles	22	9	10	3	38	35	30
Chivas USA	19	6	8	5	13	21	23
Colorado	21	7	13	1	27	30	22
Dallas	22	5	10	7	25	30	22
Portland	20	5	11	4	19	35	19

Wednesday's result
At Chester, Pa.
Chelsea vs. MLS All-Stars
Friday's game
All times Eastern
Vancouver at Real Salt Lake, 9 p.m.
Saturday's games
Houston at Toronto, 4:30 p.m.
New York at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Columbus at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Seattle at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Chicago at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Chivas USA at Portland, 11 p.m.
Sunday's game
New England at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.

OLYMPICS

WOMEN

Wednesday's results
At Cardiff, Wales
Britain 1 New Zealand 0
Brazil 5 Cameroon 0
At Coventry, England
Japan 2 **Canada 1**
Sweden 4 South Africa 1
At Glasgow
U.S. 4 France 2
North Korea 2 Colombia 0

MEN

Thursday's games
All times Eastern
At Glasgow
Honduras vs. Morocco, 7 a.m.
Spain vs. Japan, 9:45 a.m.
At Newcastle
Mexico vs. South Korea, 9:30 a.m.
Gabon vs. Switzerland, 12:15 p.m.
At Manchester
United Arab Emirates vs. Uruguay, Noon
Britain vs. Senegal, 3 p.m.
At Coventry
Belarus vs. New Zealand, 2:45 p.m.
At Cardiff
Brazil vs. Egypt, 2:45 p.m.

CFL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
Hamilton	4	2	2	0	127	133	4
Toronto	4	2	2	0	106	113	4
Montreal	4	2	2	0	108	139	4
Winnipeg	4	0	4	0	78	141	0

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
Saskatchewan	4	3	1	0	121	78	6
Edmonton	4	3	1	0	89	56	6
Calgary	4	2	2	0	147	120	4
B.C.	4	2	2	0	106	102	4

WEEK FIVE
All times Eastern
Thursday's game
Edmonton at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.
Friday's game
Toronto at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's games
Hamilton at Saskatchewan, 6 p.m.
B.C. at Calgary, 9 p.m.
WEEK SIX
Friday, Aug. 3
Montreal at Winnipeg, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, Aug. 6
B.C. at Toronto, 5 p.m.

TENNIS

ATP

BET-AT-HOME CUP

At Kitzbuehel, Austria
Singles
Second Round
Lukas Rosol, Czech Republic, def. Antonio Veic, Croatia, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3.
Martin Klizan (5), Slovakia, def. Pavol Cervenak, Slovakia, 6-4, 6-4.
Simone Bolelli, Italy, def. Florian Mayer (2), Germany, 6-2, 7-6 (4).
Wayne Odesnik, United States, leads Jurgen Zopp, Estonia, 5-7, 7-5, 3-0, susp., rain.
Attila Balazs, Hungary, leads Philipp Kohlschreiber (1), Germany, 3-0, susp., rain.

FARMERS CLASSIC

At Los Angeles
Singles — Second Round
Leonardo Mayer (3), Argentina, def. Flavio Cipolla, Italy, 6-0, 4-0, retired.
Rajeev Ram, United States, def. Paul Capdeville, Chile, 6-3, 6-1.
Doubles
First Round
Ruben Bemelmans and Xavier Malisse, Belgium, def. Paolo Lorenzi, Italy, and Benoit Paire, France, 6-2, 7-6 (7).

WTA

BAKU CUP

At Baku, Azerbaijan
Singles
Magdalena Rybarikova, Slovakia, def. Tamarine Tanasugarn, Thailand, 6-1, 6-0.
Julia Cohen, United States, def. Alla Kudryavtseva, Russia, 6-1, 6-4.
Nina Bratchikova (6), Russia, def. Estrella Cabeza Candela, Spain, 6-0, retired.
Alexandra Panova (2), Russia, def. Sandra Zaniewska, Poland, 4-6, 7-6 (6), 6-3.
Bojana Jovanovski (5), Serbia, def. Valeria Solovieva, Russia, 6-2, 6-3.
Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, def. Laura Pous-Tio, Spain, 7-6 (5), 6-3.
Olga Puchkova, Russia, def. Alberta Brianti, Italy, 3-6, 7-6 (2), 6-1.
Mandy Minella (3), Luxembourg, def. Marta Domachowska, Poland, 6-4, 7-5.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BOSTON RED SOX — Assigned RHP Jose De La Torre to Pawtucket (IL).
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Transferred 3B Lonnie Chisenhall to the 60-day DL. Designated OF Aaron Cunningham for assignment.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Named Jim Brower pitching coach for Surprise (Arizona Fall League).
MINNESOTA TWINS — Agreed to terms with C Brian Compton on a minor league contract.
NEW YORK YANKEES — Placed 3B Alex Rodriguez on the 15-day DL. Recalled INF Ramiro Pena from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL). Transferred INF Eduardo Nunez from Tampa (FSL) to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Recalled OF Trayvon Robinson from Tacoma (PCL).
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Designated OF/DH Hideki Matsui for assignment.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Agreed to terms with RHP Scott Copeland on a minor league contract.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

MIAMI MARLINS — Traded 3B Hanley Ramirez and LHP Randy Choate to the L.A. Dodgers for RHP Nathan Eovaldi and RHP Scott McGough.
NEW YORK METS — Optioned C Mike Nickeas to Buffalo (IL).
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Agreed to terms with LHP Cole Hamels on a six-year contract through 2018. Assigned OF Jason Pridie outright to Lehigh Valley (IL).
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Promoted RHP Logan Kensing from Altoona (EL) to Indianapolis (IL) and LHP Jhonathan Ramos from Bradenton (FSL) to Altoona.

BASKETBALL

NBA

DALLAS MAVERICKS — Signed C Bernard James.
MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES — Signed G Alexey Shved.
NEW YORK KNICKS — Signed G Ronnie Brewer.
UTAH JAZZ — Agreed to terms with G Randy Foye.

FOOTBALL

NFL

ARIZONA CARDINALS — Placed G Blake DeChristopher on the waived-injured list.
BUFFALO BILLS — Signed DE Sean Ferguson. Released DE Lionel Dotson.
CHICAGO BEARS — Placed WR Johnny Knox on the physically-unable-to-perform list.
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Signed DT Brandon Thompson.
DALLAS COWBOYS — Placed G Mackenzy Bernadeau, WR Danny Coale, CB Mike Jenkins, S Matt Johnson and C/G Kevin Kowalski on the physically-unable-to-perform list.
DETROIT LIONS — Released OT Johnny Culbreath. Signed OT Jonathan Scott.
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed G Greg Van Roten. Released G Grant Cook and S Charlie Peprah.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Signed CB Josh Robinson.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Signed DL Tim Bulman and TE Visanthe Shiancoe. Released RB Joseph Addai.
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Agreed to terms with TE Derek Schouman. Signed WR Marques Clark. Waived WR Kevin Hardy.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Signed P Mat McBriar to a one-year contract.
PITTSBURGH STEELERS — Placed S Damon Cromartie-Smith, NT Casey Hampton, LB James Harrison, RB Rashard Mendenhall, OT Max Starks and LB Jason Worilds on the physically-unable-to-perform list.
TENNESSEE TITANS — Waived OL Chandler Burden. Placed WR Kenny Britt and S Markelle Martin on the physically-unable-to-perform list.

HOCKEY

NHL

BOSTON BRUINS — Entered into a one-year affiliation agreement with South Carolina (ECHL).
NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Agreed to terms with D Nathan McIver on a one-year, two-way contract.
OTTAWA SENATORS — Re-signed F Stephane Da Costa to a one-year, two-way contract.

SOCCER

MLS

COLORADO RAPIDS — Re-signed G Matt Pickens to a multiyear contract.

GOLF

WEEKEND GLANCE

PGA TOUR

CANADIAN OPEN
Site: Ancaster, Ontario.
Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
Television: Golf Channel (Thursday-Friday, 3-6 p.m., 8:30-11:30 p.m.) and CBS (Saturday-Sunday, 3-6 p.m.).
Online: www.pgatour.com
Golf Canada site: www.golfcanada.ca

LPGA TOUR/LADIES EUROPEAN TOUR

EVIAN MASTERS
Site: Evian-Les-Bains, France.
Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
Television: Golf Channel (Thursday, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Friday, 12:30-2:30 a.m., 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Saturday, 12:30-2:30 a.m., 1-6 p.m., 8:30-11:30 p.m.; Sunday, 6-11 a.m., 1-6 p.m., 9-11:30 p.m.).
Online: www.lpga.com
Ladies European Tour site: www.ladieseuropeantour.com

CHAMPIONS TOUR/EUROPEAN SENIOR TOUR

SENIOR BRITISH OPEN
Site: Turnberry, Scotland.
Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
Television: ESPN2 (Thursday, noon-1 p.m.; Friday, noon-2 p.m., Sunday, noon-2 p.m.) and ESPN (Saturday, noon-2 p.m.).
Online: www.pgatour.com
European Senior Tour site: www.europeantour.com

EUROPEAN TOUR

LYONESS OPEN
Site: Atzenbrugg, Austria.
Schedule: Wednesday-Sunday.
Television: Golf Channel (Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon; Thursday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Saturday, 7-11 a.m.).
Online: www.europeantour.com

WEB.COM TOUR

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL INVITATIONAL
Site: Columbus, Ohio.
Schedule: Thursday-Sunday.
Television: Golf Channel (Thursday-Friday, 12:30-2:30 p.m.; Saturday, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Sunday, 7-9 p.m.; Monday, midnight-2 a.m.).
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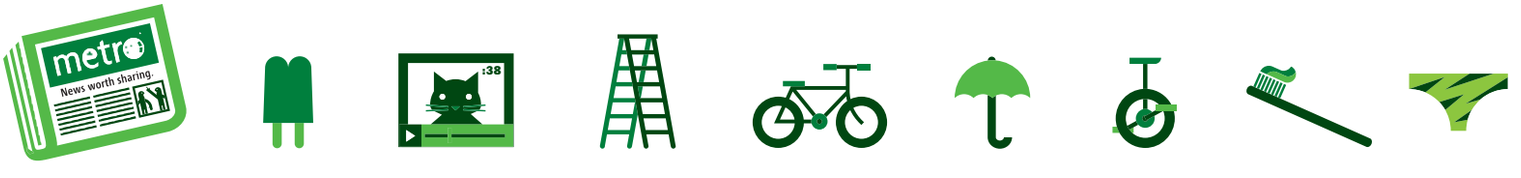

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For further information or to volunteer for the study, contact Lila Elkhadem, M.A.,
lila@yorku.ca
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Miscellaneous

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You can be pretty stubborn when the mood takes you and it is likely to take you today. You may discover though that you are not the only one who knows how to dig in their heels.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
No amount of compromise will work today, so be ready to fight for what you believe in. When it comes to willpower, you have more than most but a rival may not be as weak as they look.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Different people see things in different ways and if you can accept that, you won't have too many problems today. But if you insist the world agrees with you then you could find yourself in a lonely place.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Make sure you keep a sense of perspective over the next 24 hours, especially where money is concerned. What you own and earn is important, of course, but cash can't buy you the kind of love that you crave.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You can't help but be assertive and ambitious but don't go to extremes and start making the kind of demands of other people that you would never accept for yourself. You need more friends, not more enemies.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You seem to be asking yourself a lot of serious questions of late, but are you getting any intelligent answers? If not, maybe you should loosen up a bit and not take life so seriously – then the answers will come.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you go back on a promise today, you will regret it later. You must live up to your obligations, at home and at work because if you don't, you will let everyone down — including yourself.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
What happens today may shock you but you should have seen it coming. Also, it's unlikely to be as bad as you think, so don't overreact. What changes cannot be unchanged, no matter how forceful you may be.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
After being kept out of the loop for so long, you will discover what has been going on. It's unlikely to be as bad as you feared. It may even be good if you choose to take a long-term outlook.

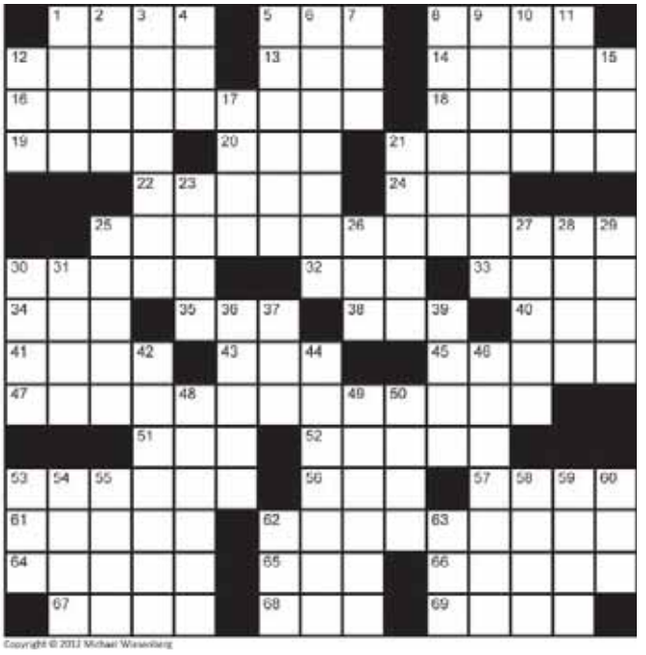
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Mind planet Mercury united with Pluto today suggests you need to take a more positive view of what's going on in the world. It's not all doom and gloom you know, in fact there are marvels in every direction.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Conflict of one kind or another is inevitable today and although that may not sound like very good news it has to happen. Only when the air is cleared can you all start to breathe more easily.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The pressure has been cranking up for quite some time and over the next few days it may even become intolerable. But you are tougher than you look and will rise to the challenge. Give it your all. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Prime Ministers

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



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Across
1. Prime Minister Chrétien
5. Where to find *The Sopranos*
8. Most common first name among Canadian PMs
12. Desperado chasers
13. Tax return rvw.
14. *Das Boot* setting
16. See 62-Across
18. Atoll explosion
19. Old dagger
20. It flows from Alberta
21. Mountainous regions of planets
22. Like some flowers
24. ___ de Cologne
25. Prime Minister April 20, 1968-June 4, 1979 and March 3, 1980-June 30, 1984
30. Surrounded by
32. Legal matter
33. Montréal, Québec, Maritimes locale
34. ___ Vegas
35. California Bay Area's largest airport, for short
38. Some in Québec
40. Letters ending an email or texted request
41. IMO cousin
43. Her: Ger.
45. Swimming (in)
47. First Prime Minister born after Confederation and only one to represent a Manitoba riding
51. Switch positions
52. Immune system component
53. Third Prime Minister, June 16, 1891-November 24, 1892
56. "Am __ trouble!"
57. Cowardly Lion player
61. "Mea ___": "my fault"
62. With 16-Across, second Prime Minister, November 7, 1873-October 8, 1878
64. First Radiohead single
65. Choice word
66. Prime Minister St. Laurent
67. Ill-mannered
68. 33-Acr. summer
69. Stuns

Down
1. ___ of Arc
2. Action-denoting suffix
3. Showed hospitality at the door
4. Born
5. Less clear
6. Manufacturer
7. "___ to Joy"
8. Alaska capital
9. Force (upon)
10. Certain gardener
11. US space gp.
12. In short, they served Canada
15. Sporty Audis
17. Film genre
21. To the point
23. Brief bylaws
25. Affirm
26. United spinoff
27. "___ apple every day to keep the doctor away"
28. Garage sale stipulation
29. Zion's locale
30. James Bond's *Octopussy* car, informally
31. Bryn ___ College: women's liberal arts college near Philadelphia
36. Premier
37. Electrical-impedance unit whose symbol is an omega
39. Satirist Mort
42. Cried "Yee-haw!"
44. Changed the bathroom decor
46. "What have we here?"
48. Open a package, maybe
49. Most freezing
50. '70s babies are part of this
53. USC : Pac 10 :: UNC : ___
54. New Westminster, BC-born Mason portrayer
55. Blue in Québec
58. ___ chori: for two voices, musically
59. "We have met the enemy and ___ us": Pogo quote
60. Monopoly utils.
62. Yes
63. In the manner of

Yesterday's crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

			5		6	8		1
4	9		2					7
					3			
	5	8	7				1	4
7	4				2	3	5	
			1					
2					8		7	6
5		3	6		4			

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	8	1	5	7	4	9	3	6
9	5	6	1	3	8	7	2	4
4	3	7	2	9	6	8	1	5
7	2	5	3	1	9	6	4	8
6	1	3	4	8	7	5	9	2
8	9	4	6	5	2	1	7	3
1	4	8	7	6	3	2	5	9
5	6	2	9	4	1	3	8	7
3	7	9	8	2	5	4	6	1

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